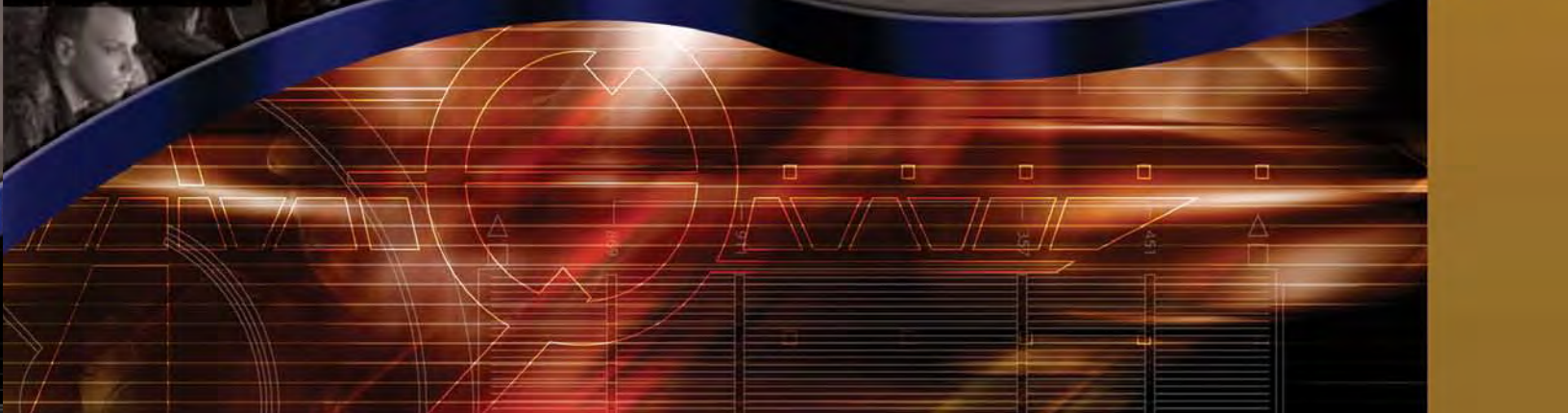


TWENTY-FIFTH AIR FORCE



A Continuing Legacy **Chronology**

1948 - 2014



ABOUT LEGACY

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Preface

Previous editions of the "Continuing Legacy, From USAFSS to the AF ISR Agency" told a complicated story about the development of an organization dedicated to national security on a global scale. Those editions also included a chronology of key events from that journey. By the time we published the Legacy's 2012 version, the publication had simply become too big to print, which led to a decision to separate the narrative story and chronology into different publications.

This publication is the first chronology in a new series. We have added many new events, but even so there is significant other detail that will be incorporated into the future editions. Like the narrative Legacy publication, this document charts specific events for the United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS) from 20 October 1948 through 1 August 1979; the Electronic Security Command (ESC) through 1 October 1991; the Air Force Intelligence Command (AFIC) through 1 October 1993; the Air Intelligence Agency through 8 June 2007; and the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency through late September 2014. On 29 September 2014, the organization will begin a new chapter in its long life by transforming into Twenty-Fifth Air Force. That story will be added to subsequent editions.

If you have specific events to add to the new chronology, please send a comment to the History Office at AFISRA.HO@us.af.mil. That address should change in the near future to 25AF.HO@us.af.mil.

USAF SECURITY SERVICE



1948 - 1979



1948

23 June: In the Pentagon, the USAF formally established the Air Force Security Group (AFSG) in its Directorate of Intelligence. The Air Force asked Maj Idris J. Jones to lead the group with its cadre of 11 officers and some enlisted clerks from the Army Security Agency (ASA).



Arlington Hall Station

USAF Security Service

26 October: At Arlington Hall Station, Va., the USAF Security Service (USAFSS) activated as a major command. The new command performed cryptologic and communications security with a staff of 34 officers, 6 enlisted, and 116 civilians.

26 October: Col Roy H. Lynn became the first USAFSS Commander.



*Col Roy H. Lynn
USAFSS Commander, 26 Oct 48-5 Jul 49*

26 October: To assist Colonel Lynn, the USAF assigned Col David Wade to be the first Vice Commander of USAFSS. Wade later became a Lieutenant General to command Eighth Air Force at Westover AFB, Mass.



*Col David Wade
USAFSS Vice Commander, 26 Oct 48-5 Sep 50*

1949

1 February: USAFSS received its first units from the ASA. The new units included the 1st Radio Squadron Mobile (RSM) in Japan; the 2 RSM in Germany, 8 RSM at Vint Hill Farms, Va., and 136th Radio Security Detachment (Det) in New York.



Unofficial Emblems: 1st, 2nd, & 8th RSM





March: The USAF assigned Capt David D. Morris to the Army Special Security Office at Headquarters (HQs) United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE). In June, USAFSS made Capt Campbell Y. Jackson a Security Service Liaison Officer to USAFE. They were the first USAF personnel to work in the Army Special Security Office system.

18 April: USAFSS moved from Arlington Hall Station, Va., to Brooks AFB, Tex.



USAFSS at Brooks AFB, circa 1949

29 May: Mr. Louis Johnson, Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) established a unified cryptologic organization, the Armed Forces Security Agency (AFSA). It conducted intelligence and communications security within the National Military Establishment.

July: A master sergeant and corporal joined USAFSS to begin Photo Lab operations. On 7 October, an officer joined the staff, and by 30 June 1950, the lab had 22 people.

6 July: After graduating from Air War College, Col Travis M. Hetherington replaced Colonel Lynn as commander.



*Col Travis M. Hetherington
Commander, 6 Jul 49-21 Jan 51*

28 July: Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Publication 2010/6 gave intelligence processing responsibilities to each service to produce combat intelligence.

December: The USAFSS Printing Plant began operations with the arrival of a litho camera, paper cutter, and opaque light table. Two civilians were assigned to the plant.

29 December: The USAF approved the USAFSS concept of operations for fully capable Radio Squadrons Mobile.

1950

2 March: USAFSS asked the San Antonio Air Materiel Area (SAAMA) for facilities on the east side of Kelly AFB, Tex.

April: The SECDEF and the USAF Vice Chief of Staff approved a USAFSS concept to produce tactical area intelligence.

2 April: Sergeant Christena Ogle, the first woman to join USAFSS, started work in the Directorate of Security.



*Sgt Christena Ogle Reports in
Maj Louis R. Lammie (left)
1st Sgt Norman Lindstrom (right)*

1 May: Maj Corinne E. Edwards became the command's first WAF officer. She became the Assistant Adjutant General.



May: USAFSS asked the USAF Director of Intelligence to post a regulation that would make USAFSS responsible for producing intelligence of interest for the Air Force. The regulation would also attach USAFSS units directly to air commanders to meet tactical intelligence requirements. It was not published.

June: The Airways & Air Communications Service (AACS) transferred the service testing of USAF cryptologic equipment, systems, devices, and billets to USAFSS to perform the function.

1 September: USAFSS set up a Flight Section with two C-47s, a B-25, and nine people.

5 September: Col Francis B. O'Donnell replaced Colonel Wade as the USAFSS Vice Commander.

November: USAFSS set up Det C, 1 RSM, at Pyongyang, Korea, to support USAF units in the Korean War.

1951

22 February: Brig Gen Roy H. Lynn, the first USAFSS Commander, returned to be the unit's third commander. Colonel Hetherington moved to Washington D.C., to be the Deputy Director of the AFSA.

27 February: After months of back and forth negotiations, SAAMA offered USAFSS a different site in the southwestern side of Kelly AFB with more area for expansion and better highway access.

14 March: General Lynn accepted the proposed site for his new headquarters on the southwestern side of Kelly AFB.

14 April: USAFSS announced that its new headquarters might cost \$9,000,000, with construction to begin on 1 July.

23 May: USAFSS activated its first group, the 6910th Security Group (SG) at Brooks AFB. Later in July, the 6910th moved its headquarters to Wiesbaden and group operations to Darmstadt, Germany.

2 June: Brig Gen Harold H. Bassett replaced Colonel O'Donnell as Vice Commander. General Bassett came to USAFSS from a Joint Staff position.

1 July: During Fiscal Year 1952 ending on 30 June 1952, USAFSS planned to deploy 13 RSMs. By late 1951, the command had eight units in the field, with the other five units awaiting activation or movement.

10 July-Mid 1953: USAFSS provided intelligence support for the truce meetings at Kaesong, Korea.

11 July: Hill and Combs Company started building four 81-man barracks and a 500-man dining hall at a cost of \$1,000,000.

17 August: Bidding opened for the new USAFSS headquarters. The W. S. Bellows Construction Company from Houston, Tex., won the bid at \$4,798,000. Construction on the site began almost immediately.

1 September: The 6920 SG activated at Johnson AB, Japan.



6920th Entry Control Point



29 November: A USAFSS detachment provided tactical data on North Korea's Air Force to Fifth Air Force. That data led to the largest U.S. air victory of the war to that date. F-86s from Inchon shot down 11 and damaged 4 more enemy planes, while only one F-86 received slight damage. American pilots called those incidents "turkey shoots."

1952

February: The Hill and Combs Company completed the new barracks and dining hall.

March: The USAF consolidated Security Service Liaison Offices and major command Special Security Offices into an Air Force Special Security Office System (AFSSOS).

April: The Air Force delegated AFSSOS development and operation to USAFSS. Then, the system had 19 offices worldwide.

18 April: USAFSS flew its first Airborne Reconnaissance Program (ARP) test mission in the Pacific with a converted B-29. It later went to Europe for testing. (March 1954).

27 July: The Glade Construction Company of Fort Worth, Tex., received a \$1,899,836 contract to build eight 200-man dormitories and two 500-man administrative buildings near the USAFSS headquarters.

August-December: USAFSS reorganized to operate with major command functions, authorities, and responsibilities. It was a major command since 20 October 1948, but operated under policy constraints required by tri-service relationships.

August: After a command-wide contest, the USAF approved the USAFSS emblem. Airman Second Class William Rogers designed the emblem.



USAFSS Emblem

October: The AFSA became National Security Agency (NSA).

1953

14 February: General Bassett replaced General Lynn as Commander.



*Brig Gen (later Maj Gen) Harold H. Bassett
Commander, 14 Feb 53-3 Jan 57*

15 February: Brig Edgar A. Sirmyer became the Vice Commander. He came from Washington, D.C.



*Brig Gen Edgar A. Sirmyer
Vice Commander, 15 Feb 53-3 Sep 56*



1 July: At Brooks AFB, the 6901st Special Communications Center (SCC) activated to perform operational functions previously handled by the USAFSS Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS) for Operations. At the same time, USAFSS activated the Air Force Communications Security Center (AFCSC) to take over the communications security from DCS/Operations.

1 July: Construction on Building 2000, the new USAFSS headquarters facility, neared completion.



Building 2000 just prior to occupation

1 August: The 6900th Security Wing (SW) activated at Landsberg AB, Germany, to plan, coordinate, and direct all USAFSS activities units in Europe. The 6920 SG at Johnson AB did the same for USAFSS Pacific units.

8 August: The 6901 SCC moved from Brooks AFB to “Security Hill” at Kelly AFB and was renamed the Air Force Special Communications Center (AFSCC).

24 October: The National Security Council revised Directive No. 9 to rename the AFSA as the NSA, delegate control of Department of Defense (DoD) resources to the Director of NSA (DIRNSA), designate the DoD as the government’s executive agent for SIGINT data, and authorize the DIRNSA to delegate control for close air support purposes.



Building 2000 during construction

27 July: A truce signed on 27 July brought an end to the Korean War.

29 July: A 343d Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron (SRS) RB-50G-2 was shot down off the Russian coast near Vladivostok. Two USAFSS airmen, Staff Sergeant Donald G. Hill and Airman Second Class Earl W. Radlein, Jr., were killed. It was the first loss of USAFSS airborne operators in a hostile act.



RB-50G

31 July: USAFSS moved from Brooks AFB into its new building at Kelly AFB, Tex.

1954

March: General Bassett, the USAFSS Commander, submitted tentative plans to expand squadron-level processing activities with direct reporting to the using commands.

8 March: USAFSS started its ARP by sending an RB-29 and crew to Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Early April: The RB-29 began flying collection missions from Yokota in the Far East. It was the command’s only aircraft in the ARP program, although USAFSS operators also flew on 343 SRS RB-50Gs.

June 1954: USAFSS tested the point of analysis and reporting concept at the 6901 SCC in Germany and 6902 SCC in Japan.



Late August: The Air Force approved General Bassett's processing concept. His new program facilitated direct and timely responses to the intelligence needs of military commands and other organizations.

27 October: General Bassett pinned on his second star.

Late December: Technical Training and Special Security Office oversight transferred from the AFSCC to USAFSS.

1955

3 March: The NSA held a conference to determine how to provide weather data in emergencies. In July, USAFSS began an effort to prepare and distribute a comprehensive plan for its weather operations.

May: USAFSS moved the 6912 RSM from Landsberg to nearby Bingen/Dromersheim, Germany.

29 May: USAFSS moved the 6926 RSM to Shiroy AB, Japan, for Project Grayback, a balloon reconnaissance operation.



The 6926th Orderly Room at Shiroy

June: Under orders from USAFSS, the 6982 RSM moved from Kelly AFB to Brooks AFB.

July: During Fiscal Year 1956, in response to an expanding Soviet-bloc war machine, USAFSS initiated a program to expand its intelligence effort.

That program increased capabilities in existing units and deployed new units throughout Europe. USAFSS conducted site surveys to locate units.

1956

April: USAFSS relocated the 6933 RSM from Ankara to Karamursel in Turkey.

1 July: The AFSC inactivated, and its personnel and communications security monitoring, reporting and management mission transferred to the Air Force Special Communications Center. The change decreased management overhead.

1 July: USAFSS inactivated the 6926 RSM to end its balloon reconnaissance program.

August: The 6969th and 6970th Support Squadrons (SptSq) moved from Suitland to Fort Meade, Md. The 6972 SptSq also moved from Washington DC to Fort Meade.

August: RB-50 aircraft were assigned to the ARP: five RB-50s went to Rhein Main AB, Germany, and five to Yokota AB, Japan, in the Pacific. The first RB-50 for Yokota arrived in August, while the first aircraft for Rhein Main did not reach Germany until December.

3 September: General Sirmeyer, the USAFSS Vice Commander, became the 6920 SW Commander at Shiroy AB. The command did not get a new vice commander until 18 May 1958.

10 September: An RB-50 left Yakota AB on its first ARP mission in bad weather. The aircraft did not return, and the USAF never found a trace of its crew. It was officially declared "lost in a typhoon."

October-December: USAFSS developed a new mobile operations concept to provide more tactical support in contingencies. The first deployment came in January 1957 in response to an unstable Middle East.



1957

4 January: Maj Gen Gordon A. Blake replaced General Bassett as the USAFSS Commander. He came from HQs Air Force, where he served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for operations.



*Maj Gen Gordon A. Blake
Commander, 4 Jan 57-5 Aug 59*

1 July: The USAFSS School moved from Kelly AFB to March AFB, Calif.

1 October: USAFSS inactivated its Headquarters Squadron Section and reassigned its personnel to the 6960 SptGp.

November: The 6910 SG moved from Landsberg, Germany, to Evreux, France.

December: A move from Darmstadt took the 6911 RSM to Bordeaux and the 6913 RSM from Bremerhaven, Germany, to the La Rochelle, both in France.

1958

Early 1958: Through coordination with PACAF, USAFSS increased its airborne effort in Korea by adding three more C-47s to increase the BLUE SKY program to four planes. Each C-47 staged from Osan AB, Korea, where they flew an average of 60 hours a month. During 1960, the BLUE SKY name changed to ROSE BOWL. The "primitive" ARP turned out to be effective. It continued until 1962 when C-130s from Yokota AB, Japan, started support to Korea, allowing the C-47s to phase out.

C-130s were sent to Europe to replace the RB-50s in the ARP. The first two C-130s arrived in Germany during July.

19 May: Maj Gen John Ackerman became the Vice Commander. General Ackerman came to USAFSS from the Philippines, where he commanded Thirteenth Air Force.

1 July: USAFSS achieved a major mile-stone by assuming control of several bases: Misawa Air Base



*Maj Gen John Ackerman
Vice Commander, 19 May 58-3 Jun 60*

(AB) and Wakkanai AS in Japan; San Vito AS, Italy; Iraklion Air Station (AS), Crete; Royal Air Force (RAF) Station Chicksands, United Kingdom; Karamursel AS, Turkey; and Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan. Later, the command gained Goodfellow AFB, Tex.

26 August: USAFSS sent a unit to Taiwan to augment the 6987 RSM at Shu Lin Kou AS due to the tension in the Taiwan Straits after the Chinese shelled Quemoy.

2 September: Soviet fighters shot down a C-130 ARP aircraft over Soviet Armenia. All crew members, including 11 USAFSS personnel, were presumed killed.

15 October: The USAFSS School moved from March AFB to Goodfellow AFB.

1 November: The 6920 SW moved from Shiroy AB to Wheeler AFB, Hawaii.



1959

July: The eighth C-130's arrival in Europe completed the RB-50 replacement program. The European RB-50s moved to the Pacific, giving the region nine RB-50 ARP aircraft.

1 July: The transfer of bases to USAFSS under the "Integrated Command Concept" ended with the transfer of Wakkanai AS, Japan, and Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan.

August: USAFSS became involved in Southeast Asia (SEA) when national intelligence authorities asked about North Vietnamese or Laotian rebel movements. Then USAFSS units were not in favorable places to obtain information. Thus, in early 1960 USAFSS sent a small team to Bangkok, Thailand.

5 August: General Blake left USAFSS to become the Pacific Air Forces Chief of Staff.

21 September: Maj Gen Millard Lewis assumed command of USAFSS. Previously, Lewis worked as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence at HQs Air Force.



*Maj Gen Millard Lewis
Commander, 21 Sep 59-31 Aug 62*

1960

June: USAFSS had \$32,000,000 in constructions projects underway at 14 installations and \$20,000,000 in housing projects to build over 1,000 units in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Far East. The projects included work buildings, dining halls, dormitories, and other essential base facilities.

1 July: General Ackerman retired. That retirement allowed Brig Gen Richard P. Klocko to become Deputy Commander. He came from Frankfurt, Germany, where he commanded the 6900 SW.

1 August: USAFSS organized the 6974 SptSq at Arlington, Va., under the 6970th Support Group to support Special Security Office functions at HQs Air Force, the Air Force Indications Center, the Air Research and Development Command, and NSA.

1 November: The 6917 RSM became the first USAFSS unit in Italy when it activated in San Vito at Brindisi Air Station.

1961

As the Vietnam War expanded, USAFSS became involved in a special effort called the Airborne Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Program. To begin the program, Gen Curtis E. LeMay, the Air Force Chief of Staff, ordered several experimental aircraft with radio homing devices to SEA.

15 May: USAFSS inactivated the 6911th Radio Group Mobile (RGM) at Darmstadt. The command then moved the 6910 RGM from Sembach to Darmstadt to perform that mission.

1 July: USAFSS activated the 6947 RSM at Goodfellow AFB with attachment to the 6940th Technical Training Wing for administrative and logistical support.



1 October: USAFSS inactivated the 6900 SW and activated Headquarters European Security Region at Frankfurt.

December: PACAF asked USAFSS to send an Emergency Reaction Unit (ERU) to Da Nang AB, South Vietnam, to support a new Tactical Air Control System. USAFSS deployed the unit in early 1962.

1962

1 January: USAFSS inactivated the 6971 and 6972 SptSqs at Fort Meade. The people, equipment, supplies, and functions were moved into the 6970th Support Group.

1 April: USAFSS activated the 6910 SW at Darmstadt as part of the European Security Region.

15 June: USAFSS moved a C-130 ARCP aircraft from Europe to MacDill AFB, Fla., to begin initial reconnaissance operations against Cuba.

1 July: USAFSS activated the 6985 RSM at Eielson AFB, Alaska, for the ACRP.

18 July: The 6940th Technical Training Wing at Goodfellow AFB, set up a 24-hour ACRP orientation and familiarization course for the Cuban operations.

Early August: USAFSS asked the Air Force to permanently station C-130s in the U.S. to support operations against Cuba. While waiting for an answer, USAFSS planned to use its overseas resources.

Mid-August: The USAFSS ACRP provided the first significant intelligence data on the extent of the Soviet Union's involvement in Castro's Communist Cuba.

1 September: Maj Gen Richard P. Klocko assumed command of USAFSS from General Lewis, who retired. General Klocko moved up from his position as the command's deputy commander.



*Maj Gen Richard P. Klocko
Commander, 1 Sep 62-15 Oct 65*

1 September: Brig Gen Louis E. Coira replaced General Klocko as the Deputy Commander.

1 September: USAFSS activated Provisional Security Det 1, 6945 RSM at MacDill AFB for the Cuban Missile Crisis.

October: The Pacific Security Region asked USAFSS about consolidating ACRP operations from Kadena AB and Misawa AB at Yokota AB.

15 October: USAFSS discontinued Provisional Security Detachment 1 and activated Detachment 1, 6945 RSM to work on Cuban Missile Crisis issues.

21 October: A second USAFSS crew and C-130 arrived at MacDill AFB from Europe to support operations against Cuba.

22 October: USAFSS deployed an ERU to Key West, Fla., to provide tactical support. It also increased airborne reconnaissance over Cuba from one to three aircraft.

27 October: A Soviet SA-2 surface-to-air missile destroyed an Air Force U-2 plane above Cuba, killing Maj Rudolf Anderson. That Cuban Missile Crisis event pushed American and Soviet forces to the brink of war.



Aerial View of Key West ERU Facilities

28 October: The U.S. and Soviet Union reached a diplomatic agreement to end the Cuban Missile Crisis.

10 November: USAFSS needed a larger site for its operations against Cuba. That need caused the command to move its unit from Key West to Cudjoe Key, 15 miles east of Key West Naval Air Station.

1963

1 February: USAFSS activated the 6947th Security Squadron (SS) at Key West Naval Air Station (NAS) to replace the ERU placed there for the Cuban Missile Crisis.

11 June: To trim intermediate echelons and units, USAFSS initiated an “Operational Wing Concept.” It discontinued mission units and organized support squadrons, while wing absorbed mission unit functions. USAFSS installed the concept in Europe late in 1963 and in the Pacific in 1964.

1 July: USAFSS activated three ERUs: the 6948 SS, Mobile (SSM) at Goodfellow AFB; the 6926 SSM at Clark AB, the Philippines; and the 6911 SSM at Darmstadt.

1 July: Under the “Operational Wing Concept,” USAFSS activated the 6900 SptSq at Frankfurt, the 6910 SptSq at Darmstadt, and the 6950 SptSq at RAF Chicksands. The command called this concept its European Experiment.

27 July: USAFSS adopted the motto “Freedom Through Vigilance.”

August-November: USAFSS gave several communications functions to the Air Force Communications Service: (1) the operation and maintenance of the Critical Communications Relay Stations; (2) the operation and maintenance of Terminal Station Technical Control; and (3) Terminal Station Maintenance.

1 September: USAFSS activated the 6926 SS at Clark AFB.

1964

January-June: Shortly after the Cuban Missile Crisis, the situation in SEA flared up. South Vietnam underwent a coup and a counter-coup as the political environment there became volatile.

1 January: USAFSS redesignated the 6936th COMSEC Depot Group at Kelly AFB as the USAF Cryptologic Group.

Early 1964: General Klocko asked the Air Staff and the Strategic Air Command (SAC) to add six RC-135s to the airborne effort.

June: The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) disapproved the USAFSS request for six more RC-135s.

15 June: Based on the success of his European Experiment, General Klocko implemented the Operational Wing Concept in USAFSS. Plans targeted the 6921 SW at Misawa and the 6922 SW at Kadena.

2 August: Three North Vietnamese Navy torpedo boats attacked the USS *Maddox* destroyer, in the Gulf of Tonkin. President Lyndon B. Johnson then ordered the first airstrikes against targets in North Vietnam.



1 October: Under the Operational Wing Concept, USAFSS inactivated the 6989 SS and activated the 6989 SptSq at Misawa. It also redesignated the 6940th Technical Training Squadron at Goodfellow AFB as the 6940th Technical Training Group.

1 October: USAFSS inactivated the 6974 SptSq at Fort Myer, Va., and redesignated the 6915 SS at Hof, Germany, the 6913 SS at Bremerhaven, and 6932 SS at Samsung, Turkey, as security groups.

13 November: The NSA asked OSD to reinstate the six RC-135s for the ARCP program. NSA claimed the 22 assigned aircraft could not fly the required 236 sorties a month.

1965

1 January: USAFSS inactivated the 6945 SS at Goodfellow AFB.

26 March: The USAF told USAFSS to transfer all USAF SSO functions to using commands by 1 July. The directive affected 811 people in 50 places around the world.

March: The first AN/FLR-9 antenna system became operational at Misawa AB. Earlier tests took place at San Vito, but the system did not become operational before Misawa.



FLR-9 at Misawa AB, Japan

April: The second AN/FLR-9 became operational at Clark AB.

May: The 6988 SS at Yakota AB, Japan, received the Travis Trophy for the most significant contributions to cryptologic operations, management, and administration.

1 July: USAFSS moved the 6922 SW from Kadena AB to Clark AB. It also inactivated the 6925 SG and activated the 6922 SptSq at Clark. At Onna Point, Okinawa, USAFSS redesignated the 6927 SS as the 6927 SG.

Late 1965: The USAFSS ARP in SEA increased its missions from one to two daily by using four RC-130s rather than two.

Late 1965: USAFSS ARP C-130s began participating in tactical operations in SEA. They supported both USAF and Navy strike forces by providing alert warnings. That initiative was the first time the command provided tactical support to combat operations on a regular basis.

Late 1965: The USAFSS ARP unit in the Pacific performed the command's first airborne transmission security monitoring mission in a test.

22 September: General Klocko asked the USAF for the Electronic Warfare (EW) mission.

28 September: The Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen John P. McConnell, released the names of communication security violators in transmission security reports. That event was a first in transmissions security reporting. McConnell granted release of names down to division level.

14 October: After months of negotiations, Cyrus Vance, Deputy SECDEF, agreed to add six RC-135s to the airborne effort, but that decision created a basing issue. It took 18 months to select a base of operations. With the growing air war in Vietnam, the USAF considered Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Da Nang, South Vietnam, and Kadena, Okinawa, as bases.



*Maj Gen E. Louis Coira
Commander, 16 Oct 65 - 19 Jul 69*

16 October: Maj Gen Louis E. Coira, the Vice Commander moved up to assume command of USAFSS. The Air Force reassigned General Klocko as the Air Force Communications Service Commander.



*Brig Gen Arthur W. Kellond
Vice Commander, 16 Oct 65-1 Jun 66*

16 October: Coming from the 6920 SW in Japan, Brig Gen Arthur W. Kellond became the USAFSS Vice Commander.

1966

Early 1966: Assistant SECDEF Cyrus Vance placed Air Force ARDF assets in the Electronic Warfare Program.

1 April: USAFSS inactivated the 6963d Air Police Squadron at Kelly AFB.

15 April: USAFSS activated the 6994 SS at Tan Son Nhut AB, South Vietnam.

April: The USAF named the ARDF Program “Phyllis Ann.” In late April, the first Phyllis Ann EC-47 aircraft arrived at Tan Son Nhut, for use by the newly activated 6994 SS.

Mid-1966: The first AN/FLR-12 antenna system became operational.

1 June: General Kellond, the Vice Commander, retired.

1 July: USAFSS reorganized its operations and communications electronics functions, creating a Deputy Chief of Staff for Systems and Technology. The change integrated operations and engineering activities.

1 July: USAFSS entered a new era of operational systems development during the first half of 1966 with the installation of system 466L (FLR-9 and FLR-12) at several locations around the world.

31 July: A new USAFSS Vice Commander, Brig Gen Carl W. Stapleton, came from Hawaii, where he commanded the Pacific Security Region. (See 19 Jul 69).

September: USAFSS organized the 6993 SS at Lackland AFB, Annex One (Medina Base, Tex).

September: A new AFR 23-30 gave USAFSS the EW mission.

28 October: HQs Air Force asked USAFSS to make an assessment of protective electronic countermeasures used by U.S. aircraft in air strikes against North Vietnam.

Late 1966: General McConnell established an Electronic Warfare Evaluation function in USAFSS because: (1) it neither built nor operated EW systems; (2) it had the necessary core skills; (3) it had access to critical intelligence; and (4) it had a close working relation-ship with NSA as the Air Force cryptologic component.



1967

16 January: After years of development, the AFSCC established a 24-hour/7-day-a-week function to provide direct support to agencies needing information. It permitted rapid responses to complex queries for technical and intelligence data.

20 January: At RAF Chicksands, USAFSS inactivated the 6950 SW and 6950 Spt Gp. It also activated the 6950 SG at that location

March: USAFSS assigned its new EW evaluation mission to the AFSCC at Kelly AFB. The AFSCC received the mission because it had a cadre of experienced analysts. That new electronic mission, called COMFY COAT, was the first major change in the command's responsibilities in many years.

9 March: The command disseminated its first COMFY COAT evaluation report. Later, USAFSS expanded the effort to cover evaluations of Navy, Marine, and Army air and ground EW. As the years passed, the COMFY COAT name came to mean all operational EW effectiveness evaluations being conducted by AFSCC.

1 May: USAFSS ARP units began performing airborne transmission security monitoring when time permitted.

June: The USAF added six more RC-135s to Kadena AB.

15 July: USAFSS activated the 6990 SS at Kadena for the RC-135 operations in SEA.

26 July: A RIVET BALL (Tail No. 59-491) arrived at Eielson AFB for operations through 20 September to allow runway repairs at Shemya AB.

28 July: For the USAFSS RIVET TOP mission, an EC-121 Warning Star early warning radar surveillance aircraft moved from MacDill AFB to Udorn AB, Thailand. The aircraft later moved to Korat AB, Thailand, from June to November 1968.



EC-121

25 August: SAC activated the 82d Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron at Kadena to fly the RC-135 over SEA.

10 September: The first three COMBAT APPLE RC-135s arrived at Kadena AB. Seven more arrived between October and January 1968.

12 September: Just two days after the first aircraft arrived at the 6990 SS, an RC-135 flew its first operational COMBAT APPLE mission. By November, daily scheduled COMBAT APPLE missions of 18 hours and 45 minutes were being flown. The typical mission profile included 12 hours and 30 minutes on the primary orbit.

Late 1967: USAFSS ARP units began performing airborne transmissions security monitoring when time permitted.

October-December: The 6924 SS put the Iron Horse system into operation at Da Nang AB and Monkey Mountain, South Vietnam.



19 December: Following guidance on increased use of women in the Air Force, the command assigned females to units in Karamursel, Turkey; Iraklion, Crete; Chicksands, UK; Misawa AB; Shu Lin Kou, Taiwan; and Goodfellow AFB and Kelly AFB in Texas. That was the first time enlisted women were assigned to USAFSS operational sites overseas.

1968

Spring: USAFSS officials visited the Commission on Accreditation of Service Experiences in Washington, D.C., to find out how to get its technical training courses accredited.

7 January: The 6937th Communications Group (CG) closed at Peshawar, Pakistan, after the Government of Pakistan refused to renew USAFSS's lease on the site.

9-22 March: USAFE asked USAFSS to evaluate radar homing and warning in Western Europe. USAFSS deployed a team to conduct a COMFY COAT evaluation.

23 May: Conferences between USAFSS and the AF Communications Service (AFCS) during 1968 led to an agreement to transfer 11 CRITICOMM terminal sites to USAFSS, effective 1 January 1969.

21 August: The Soviet Union invaded Czechoslovakia. USAFSS successfully observed Soviet EW tactics.

1969

13 January: RIVET BALL aircraft (Tail No. 59-1491) hydroplaned off the runway at Shemya AB. All crew members survived.



RIVET BALL (Tail No. 91491)

May: The 6990 SS at Kadena AB won the Travis Trophy for its highly significant contributions in 1968 to national and tactical cryptologic objectives.

Mid-1969: The DoD reduced forces in Turkey and realigned the intelligence forces there. That realignment caused USAFSS sites at Trabzon and Samsun to close, but USAFSS activated the 6934 SS at Sinop.

5 June: A SAC RC-135E RIVET AMBER disappeared over the Bering Sea. USAFSS lost six people.



RC-135E RIVET AMBER

19 July: General Coira left USAFSS to become the Vice Commander at Fifth Air Force. The USAFSS Vice, Maj Gen Carl W. Stapleton, became the Commander. The vice position remained empty until 3 November, when Brig Gen Ernest F. John arrived.



*Maj Gen Carl W. Stapleton
Commander*



*Brig Gen Ernest F. John
Vice Commander,
3 Nov 69-Dec 70*

1970

7 January: In a small ceremony, USAFSS closed the 6937 CG at Peshawar to end its 15-year presence there.

Mid-1970: During 1970, USAFSS ended its operational wing concept and reorganized its units to strengthen the role of regions. All over-seas wings were renamed as groups and their subordinate units placed under the direct control of two regions.

30 September: The 6994 SS at Tan Son Nhut AB, Vietnam, received the Travis Trophy for its 1969 efforts in cryptology.

Late 1970: An increasing threat against ARP aircraft reduced manned flights, causing the USAF to deploy drones. COMBAT DAWN was the first drone system deployed. It operated from Korea.



AQM-34R Combat Dawn

December: General John left his job as Vice Commander to become the Seventh Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence at Tan Son Nhut Airfield, South Vietnam.

1971

8 January: Plans began to use the C-130 fleet in Japan to replace the aging C-130 fleet in Europe.

19 January: General John's reassignment brought Brig Gen George K. Sykes to USAFSS to be the Vice Commander. General Sykes previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence at Seventh Air Force, Tan Son Nhut Airfield



*Brig Gen George K. Sykes
Vice Commander, 19 Jan 71-14 Feb 72*



1 July: USAFSS acquired its first medical facility when the Air Training Command (ATC) transferred the USAF Hospital at Goodfellow AFB to USAFSS.

1 July: The 6300 SptSq (later the 6300th Aerospace Support Squadron) activated at Ko Kha, Thailand, for COBRA TALON.

1 July: The 6908 SS activated at Nakhon Phanom Airport to operate SENIOR BOOK and COMPASS FLAG programs, as well as process and report their intercepts.

5 November: President Nixon announced a reorganization of U.S. intelligence. One effort set up a coherent manning structure for the U.S. cryptologic effort by creating a “National Cryptologic Command.”

31 December: USAFSS turned over Hof AS, Germany, to HQs USAFE. Earlier on 30 June, USAFSS inactivated the 6915 SG at that location.

1972

21-23 March: The first Revised Senior Officers Orientation Course was conducted at USAFSS with favorable results.

15 February: USAFSS TEABALL/WCC operations started to relay intelligence to USAF weapons controllers in the 6908 SS at Nakhon Phanom Airport. They used the data to control aircrews over North Vietnam.

15 February: General Sykes’ decision to retire in March made Brig Gen Erwin A. Hesse the Vice Commander. General Hesse arrived at Kelly AFB in August to work as a Special Assistant to General Stapleton.



*Brig Gen Erwin A. Hesse
Vice Commander, 15 Feb 72-30 Jun 74*

14 April: SECDEF Melvin R. Laird achieved a significant milestone in his effort to create a “National Cryptologic Command” when he approved the National Security Agency/ Central Security Service (NSA/CSS) organizational plan.

Mid-Year: In Japan, a DoD Program Budget Decision realigned the cryptologic organization, closing the 6986 SG at Wakkanai AS, and inactivating the 6918 SS at Hakata AS and the 6988 SS at Yokota AB. The DoD also discontinued projects in the 6988 SS, including BENCH ROYAL and RIVET GYM manning for COLLEGE EYE. The remaining COMBAT DAWN mission transferred to the 6903 SS at Osan AB.

30 June: Under President Nixon’s plan to reorganize U.S. Intelligence, the European Security Region inactivated.

1 July: USAFSS organized the AFCSC at Kelly AFB to execute the USAF COMSEC mission under USAFSS. It also assigned overseas units to provide COMSEC services to various theater activities.

1 July: At Misawa AB, the host base activities for the 6921 SW changed from PACAF to USAFSS.

Late 1972: The 6910 SG moved from Darmstadt to Augsburg, Germany.



*Maj Gen Walter T. Galligan
Commander, 24 Feb 73-20 May 74*

22 December: Program Budget Decision 138C cut four RC-130 ARP aircraft from Europe, effective in early 1973.

31 December: USAFSS inactivated the Pacific Security Region to eliminate an intermediate headquarters.

31 December: The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accredited the USAFSS school at Goodfellow AFB. It was the first USAF school to get that honor.

1973

24 February: Maj Gen (later Lt Gen) Walter T. Galligan replaced General Stapleton as the commander. He ordered a full review of USAFSS units, which led to a major reorganization in 1974.

20 April: TEMPEST moved from the Air Force Cryptologic Depot to the AFSCC.

May: NSA picked the 6916 SS at Athenai Airport, Greece, for the 1972 Travis Trophy.

30 June: The command's European ARP unit, the 6916 SS, moved from Rhein Main AB, Germany, to Athens, Greece.

2 October: USAFSS units and the AFSCC provided intelligence and EW support to U.S. forces observing the Arab/Israeli War.

1974

1 January: USAFSS initiated the Main Operating Base (MOB)/Forward Operating Base (FOB) concept. The USAF then based 12 RIVET JOINT RC-135s and crews at Offutt AFB, Nebr. They flew missions from Eielson AFB and RAF Mildenhall, UK.

15 May: When the last C-47 ARDF aircraft returned to its base in Thailand, it ended a brief, but proud era in USAFSS airborne operations. For eight years, the ARDF program provided valuable support to U.S. and friendly tactical commanders in SEA.

21 May: Maj Gen Howard P. Smith, Jr., assumed command of USAFSS from General Galligan, who became of Fifth Air Force commander at Fuchu AS, Japan.



*Maj Gen Howard P. Smith, Jr.
Commander, 21 May 74-10 Aug 75*

30 June: Another era in USAFSS operations ended when the 6910 SG at Augsburg and the 6994 SS at Ubon AFS, Thailand, inactivated. The 6910 SG served as the command's main operator in Europe from December 1953, while the 6921 SW played a similar role in the Vietnam war. At one time, the 6994 SS and its detachments conducted the mission from 48 EC-47s in Laos, Cambodia, S. Vietnam, and Thailand.



1 July: The Consolidated Security Operations Center, a joint USAFSS and ASA function, activated at Lackland AFB Annex (Medina Base).

1 July: A manpower and organization review in February 1973 resulted in a major reorganization of six USAFSS host units overseas and its airborne operations. Notably, the command activated the 6944 SW at Offutt AFB, activated the 6955 SG at Kelly AFB, resubordinated five squadrons and emergency reactions units under a new group; and downgraded three USAFSS tenant groups to squadrons.

1 July: General Hesse, Vice Commander, retired. The position remained vacant until 26 September.

20 July: With the outbreak of hostilities between Cyprus and Crete, USAFSS deployed a 114-man emergency reaction unit to San Vito for 60 days.

29 July: USAFSS proposed modernizations to its RIVET JOINT fleet. The DoD agreed to replace obsolete equipment in 12 aircraft.

16 August: Greek protesters penetrated and damaged the base fence at Iraklion AS, the home of the 6931 SG.

26 September: Brig Gen Richard G. Collins arrived from Washington, D.C., to become the USAFSS Vice Commander. There he worked as the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Chief of Staff.



*Brig Gen Richard G. Collins
Vice Commander, 26 Sep 74-30 Jun 75*

September: Following several international crises, General Smith set up a crisis team to consult with the USAFSS Battle Staff in future crises. It included specialists with knowledge of unit operations and functions.

1 December: Colonel Norma E. Brown became the first woman to command an USAF wing, the 6940 SW at Goodfellow.



Col Norma E. Brown

1975

30 April: For nearly eight years, COMBAT APPLE played a key role in SEA operations. After the emergency evacuation of U.S. and South Vietnamese personnel from Saigon, an RC-135 flew the last COMBAT APPLE mission.

June: The termination of COMBAT DAWN, the high altitude reconnaissance drone, created an intelligence void that was only partially offset by the new BURNING CANDY RC-135. In early January 1976, the USAF also approved a U-2 operation from Osan AB to fill that void. Afterwards USAFSS manned the new OLYMPIC GAME system in the 6903 SS at Osan.

24 June: USAFSS turned in its five administrative planes—two O-2s and three C-118s. The turn-in ended 24 years of airlift support to the command. The USAFSS Flight Operations Section closed at Kelly AFB with an unblemished flying safety record (zero accidents), while its planes averaged 2,200 flying hours a year.



1 July: General Collins retired. His replacement, Brig Gen Kenneth D. Burns, assumed duties as Vice Commander. Burns came to Kelly AFB from RAF Upper Heyford, U.K., where he commanded the 20th Tactical Fighter Wing.

1 July: USAFSS redesignated the AFSCC as the Air Force Electronic Warfare Center (AFEWC) to reflect its EW mission and improve its visibility in the DoD.

25 July: After the U. S. Congress imposed an arms embargo on Turkey, the Turkish government ordered all U.S. operations at Karamursel AS to close immediately.

25 July: The 6911 SS (M) converted to a Direct Support Unit (DSU) and moved from Rhein Main to Hahn AB in Germany. As a DSU, the squadron answered requests from European consumers for intelligence support (primarily tactical in nature). Earlier in 1974, USAFE established a need for timely intelligence support. The Air Staff selected the 6911 SS (M) to provide that direct support.



*Brig Gen Kenneth D. Burns
Commander, 11 Aug 75-18 Jan 79*

27 August: General Burns assumed command of USAFSS, which left the Vice Commander position vacant until Brig Gen Bernard Ardisana arrived from Fort Meade, Md., where he worked for NSA.



*Brig Gen Bernard Ardisana
Vice Commander, 27 Aug 75-9 Jun 77*

1976

Mid-1976: The AFEWC received an AF Organizational Excellence Award (AFOEA) for 1 January 1974 to 1 January 1976 to recognize its “comprehensive operational EW support to the DoD, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and all military services.”

May: NSA awarded its Travis Trophy for 1975 to the 6993 SS at Kelly AFB.

15 May: The 6924 SS closed at Ramasun Station, Thailand. Its personnel and equipment went to the 6922 SS at Clark AB.

June: USAFSS moved COMFY LEVI II and the SENIOR BOOK systems to Hahn AB for use in the 6-10 September Exercise Cold Fire 76.

September: USAFSS received SAC’s agreement and NSA’s approval to close the 6903 SS at Osan, 6987 SS at Shu Lin Kou, and 6920 SG in Japan.

7-10 December: USAFSS participated in the first Blue Flag exercise at Shaw AFB, S.C., and Eglin AFB, Fla.

1977

1 April: USAFSS inactivated the 6987 SS at Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan.



10 June: Colonel Paul M. Ingram became the Vice Commander, replacing General Ardisana on his reassignment to be NSA's Assistant Deputy Director for Operations.



*Col Paul M. Ingram
Vice Commander, 10 Jun 77-1 Aug 79
ESC Vice Commander, 1 Aug 79-13 Jul 80*

1 October: Two years of negotiations between the U.S. and the Turkish governments failed to reopen the 6933 SG at Karamursel. Thus, the unit inactivated. USAFSS offset the reductions in Thailand, Taiwan, and Turkey by reallocating tasks and resources to other bases.

1978

1 July: General Burns became a two star general.

1 July: USAFSS transferred its cryptologic school from Goodfellow AFB to Air Training Command.

1 October: USAFSS ended 20 years of base management by giving San Vito AS, Iraklion AS, RAF Chicksands, and Misawa AB to other commands. The action affected 17 USAFSS units, a cryptologic training mission, 5 host bases, and 4,000 personnel.

14 July: USAFSS named Building 2000, Ardisana Hall to honor Brig Gen Bernard Ardisana. He was a longtime USAFSS member and former vice commander, who died on duty while assigned to the NSA.

1979

19 January: Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson replaced General Burns as the USAFSS Commander. He was the last USAFSS and first Electronic Security Command (ESC) Commander.



*Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson
Commander, 19 Jan 79-1 Aug 79
ESC Commander, 1 Aug 79-28 Jul 83*

1 February: USAFSS transferred the operation and maintenance of its Telecommunications Center to Air Force Communications Service (later the Air Force Communications Command).

20 April: The USAF established the Directorate of Electromagnetic Combat (AF/XOE), under the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans, and Readiness to support the planned ESC mission.

May: NSA awarded the Travis Trophy for 1979 to the 6903 SS at Osan AB.

17 July: General Larson officially opened the Command Alert Center.



*General Larson and Col Bobby Bagley
cutting the ribbon on the new Alert Center*

ELECTRONIC SECURITY COMMAND



1979 - 1991



Electronic Security Command

1 August: The USAF redesignated USAFSS as ESC to recognize its broader EW responsibilities. All units assigned to the USAFSS were automatically transferred to the ESC.

1980

1 January: The ESC officially created the COMFY OLYMPICS program to identify and recognize ESC's most talented enlisted technicians. Modeled after SAC's annual missile, bombing and munitions competitions, COMFY OLYMPICS improved technical performance and proficiency, while recognizing and rewarding technical excellence in the command.

1 February: The Air Force Cryptologic Depot (AFCD) became the Air Force Cryptologic Support Center (AFCSC).

12 February: The Albert F. Simpson Center at Maxwell AFB, Al., approved the ESC emblem.



ESC Emblem

19 March: ESC built a Document Destruction System (DDS) facility as an addition to Ardisana Hall for \$74,200.

31 March: The Director of the NSA assigned the LADYLOVE mission to ESC.

July: ESC transferred its Sensitive Compartmented Information adjudication function and manpower spaces to the Air Force Intelligence Service.

14 July: Colonel Paul H. Martin replaced Colonel Ingram as the Vice Commander. Martin came to ESC from Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, where he served as Chief of the Collections Management Division for U.S. Pacific Command.



*Col Paul H. Martin
ESC Vice Commander 14 Jul 80-30 Jul 81*

30 September: The Air Staff tasked ESC to form a Red Force Team (CONSTANT SPUR). The team employed adversary Command, Control, and Communications Countermeasures (C3CM) against friendly combat crews, weapons controllers, communications, and C3 facilities to train them in a degraded C3 environment and stress friendly C3 systems.

1 October: The Joint Electronic Warfare Center (JEWEC) activated at Kelly AFB. It functioned under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff through the Director of Operations, Joint Staff. General Larson was dual-hatted as JEWEC Director.



3 November: The USAF directed ESC to combine its Red Force (CONSTANT SPUR) and Blue Force (Electronic Support Team). The combined program became COMFY CHALLENGE, while the interim program became COMFY SWORD II.

1981

9 January: First modern RC-135 RIVET JOINT deployed to the 6988 ESS at RAF Mildenhall.

February 1981: The second modern RIVET JOINT deployed to the 6985 ESS at Eielson AFB. Successful Block III operations at RAF Mildenhall and Eielson, and mixed fleet operations at Offutt AFB continued through 1981. Introduction of the third, fourth, and fifth modern aircraft followed in March, August, and December.

15 March: The COBRA BALL II aircraft (Tail Number 61-2664) crashed while attempting to land in severe weather at Shemya Air Force Station (AFS). Six COBRA BALL crew members lost their lives; 18 crewmembers survived including 2 ESC personnel: TSgt David Gerke and TSgt Tommie Woods. Both were awarded the Airman's Medal for their actions helping to rescue fellow crewmembers.



Cobra Ball Tail Number 61-2664

1 July: ESC merged its DCS/Operations (DO) and DCS/National Programs (NP).

1 July: ESC activated the 6910th Electronic Security Wing (ESW) at Lindsey AS, Germany, to perform in-theater planning with USAFE and other services on C3CM and tactical intelligence support missions. That mission included the planning for peacetime, exercise, and contingency/ wartime intelligence needs.

30 July: Colonel Lester R. Mellott, Jr., replaced Colonel Martin as the Vice Commander. He moved to Fort Meade to become NSA's Chief of Tactical Systems, Research and Engineering.



*Col Lester R. Mellott, Jr.
Vice Commander, 30 Jul 81-12 May 82*

1 October: The Air Force Reserves established the 8075 ESS as ESC's first Air Force Reserve unit at Brooks AFB. The unit provided communications security support to the USAF and other DoD organizations.

8 October: The first CORONET GUARD COMFY LEVI mission flew out of Howard AFB, Panama, in an attempt to expand U.S. capabilities in Central America. The missions lasted until 18 December.

26 October: The USAFSS/ESC alumni association organized to foster awareness of the command's accomplishments. It also provided its members a forum for social, educational, and humanitarian services. It later became the Freedom Through Vigilance Association.



1982

1 January: The 6952 ESS activated at RAF Alconbury, UK, to provide maintenance for the TR-1 (a U-2 with new J75 Turbojet engines). Subordinate to the 6910 ESW, the 6952d ensured that all ESC critical support requirements would be in place before the TR-1 arrived at Alconbury in early 1983.

16 February: The USAF tasked ESC to provide integrated all-source Operations Security (OPSEC) support to all Air Force units. That support included threat assessment and vulnerability analysis.

13 May: Brig Gen Regis F. A. Urschler assumed duties as ESC's Vice Commander. He came from the 47th Air Division Fairchild AFB, Wash.



*Brig Gen Regis F. A. Urschler
Vice Commander, 13 May 82-15 May 85*

1 October: Special Agent Pat Martin became the first Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) Counterintelligence agent assigned to ESC. He reported directly to ESC's Chief of Staff. His assignment enhanced AFOSI investigative/operational support to the ESC through direct contact with HQ ESC staff elements.

1 December: Det 2, Electronic Security Combat Operations Staff (ESCOS) activated at Scott AFB, Ill., to support the Military Airlift Command (MAC). It was assigned to MAC's DCS for Operations.

17 December: The 6981 ESS received the first new COMFY SWORD 1A system for initial deployment in exercise Brim Frost 83. The remaining 11 COMFY SWORD 1A systems were scheduled for delivery in 1983.

17 December: General Larson directed the merger of the Office of Assistant Chief of Staff for Total Force Augmentation (CF) and the Reserve Affairs Office (DPB). As a result, ESC's Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) Program fell under the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel (DP) and increased mission effectiveness.

December: The 6924 ESS, under the command of Lt Col Michael S. Cassidy, received an outstanding rating from ESC's Inspector General (IG). It was the first outstanding IG rating in ESC history.

1983

10 February: The first TR-1 airframe deployed to RAF Alconbury, where the 6952 ESS provided direct support to intelligence operations in Europe. At the same time, U-2R operations in Central Europe ceased and the U-2R maintenance personnel in the 6988 ESS at RAF Mildenhall transferred to the 6952 ESS.

February: The 6960th Security Police Squadron re-established the Special Security Guard (formerly Elite Guard) for HQs ESC.

9 April: ESC formally dedicated the Hall of Honor in Ardisana Hall during the National Prisoner of War (POW)/Missing in Action (MIA) ceremony.

May: NSA selected the 6912 ESG in Berlin as the recipient of the 1982 Travis Trophy.

29 July: Maj Gen John B. Marks assumed ESC's command, replacing General Larson. General Marks served previously as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence.



*Maj Gen John B. Marks
Commander, 29 Jul 83-17 April 85*

1 October: ESC activated HQs Electronic Security, Alaska (ESA) at Elmendorf AFB. That action strengthened the organization of the 6981 ESS at Elmendorf by assigning it to HQs Electronic Security, Pacific (ESP) at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and the 6985 ESS at Eielson AFB to HQs ESS at Offutt AFB. Both units were assigned to HQs ESA.

1 October: The 8078 ESS (AF Reserves) activated at Offutt AFB. Reserve PRIME BEEF teams from Indiana, Washington, and Wisconsin built a 4,000-square-foot building for the squadron. As a mission, the unit trained for and conducted communications surveillance for SAC. Fourteenth Air Force controlled the unit in peacetime, but when mobilized, ESC would gain the unit.

1984

February: General Marks, the ESC Commander, directed a concerted effort to realign the command's tactical assets to better support exercise and wartime taskings.

May: NSA gave the 1983 Travis Trophy to the 6920 ESG at Misawa AB.

21 May: An OLYMPIC GAME U-2 aircraft crashed at Osan AB. The crash destroyed all airborne systems on the jet.

29 June: Mrs. Betty Leftwich, widow of TSgt Raymond F. Leftwich, helped General Marks unveil a plaque naming a Security Hill dorm for her late husband. Sergeant Leftwich, a USAFSS radio operator, died in March 1967 when enemy fire shot down his EC-47 in Vietnam. He led a crew of three USAFSS operators in Det 1, 6994 SS, when his aircraft went down, killing all crewmen.

2 October: ESC received a \$5,216,958 contract to build a 74,100 square-foot addition to Building 2000 (Building 2007).

8 October: A second Olympic Game U-2 aircraft crashed at Osan AB, destroying the airborne and data link systems.

29 October: Contractors broke ground for the new addition to Building 2000.

1985

2 February: Islamic terrorists bombed a bar, which catered to U.S. servicemen in Greece. Seventy-eight people, mostly Americans, were injured. Terrorist activity escalated thereafter.

1 April: ESC created DCS/Space Activities (SX) from the discontinued Directorate of Space Activities (DOZ), DCS/Operations.

10 April: the 8085th Security Police Flight (AFRES) activated to augment the 6960th Security Police Squadron in wartime. The 8085th was the first security police unit to be assigned a wartime mission at ESC.

15 April: General Marks decided to consolidate two mobile ESC assets, the 6913 ESS at Flak Kaserne, Augsburg, and the 6918 ESS at the Mehlingen annex of Sembach AB. On 1 October 1986, the 6918 ESS set up at Mehlingen Annex and became the 6914 ESS. The 6913 ESS moved from Augsburg to Mehlingen in April 1987.



17 April: Brig Gen Paul H. Martin took command when General Marks retired.



*Brig Gen Paul H. Martin
Commander, 17 April 85-16 Aug 89*

29 April: Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) Verne Orr approved the use of Air Force women for airborne duty on EC-130 COMPASS CALL aircraft. That change gave female crypto-linguists their first chance to serve as aircrew members.

1 May: ESC created the DCS/Information Systems (SI) to integrate its Communications and Data Automation functions.

8 May: The USAF required polygraph tests for all people being assigned to NSA, related field activities, and certain ESC positions prior to a permanent change of station (PCS) move. Local AFOSI offices had to conduct the tests prior to a PCS move.

17 May: ESC assumed the Computer Security mission for the USAF.

1 June: Brig Gen Grover E. Jackson replaced the retiring General Urschler as the ESC Vice Commander. General Jackson was previously the Chief of the Intelligence Plans Division, Directorate of Intelligence, U.S. European Command (EUCOM).

“The USAF required polygraph tests for all people assigned to NSA related field activities.”



*Brig Gen Grover E. Jackson
Vice Commander, 1 Jun 85-2 Jul 87*

19 July: USAFE accepted and approved the USAFSS proposal to combine the 6913 ESS and 6918 ESS. The new combined unit was to be called the 6914 ESS.

7 November: Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Richard D. Kisling (retired), a former USAFSS Senior Enlisted Advisor and the third CMSAF, died. He was buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.



*CMSAF Richard D. Kisling
Former USAFSS Senior Enlisted Advisor*

Through 1985: Based on continuing terrorist activities in Greece, the DoD imposed travel restrictions on all U.S. military personnel. Passengers had to use MAC airlift to for both PCS and temporary duty travel from and to the CONUS. Those restrictions made travel longer to complete for all ESC personnel.



6 November: The Electronics Intelligence Operations Specialist Course transferred from Keesler AFB, Miss., to Goodfellow AFB. It was the first in several moves to consolidate intelligence training at Goodfellow's Technical Training Center.

1986

March: USAFE reviewed ESC's draft COMPASS CALL organizational structure from October 1985.

28 March: General Martin approved 6919 ESS as the designator for the new ESC COMPASS CALL squadron. At that same time, USAFE agreed to move 109 billets to ESC on 1 October to provide ESC all facilities and equipment for the COMPASS CALL mission. On 1 October, the 6919 ESS activated at Sembach AB, Germany.

9 April: At Hill AFB, Utah, the Air Force officially constituted the 169 ESS, an ANG unit that would be gained by ESC later on 8 October. That initiative began in early 1983 to take advantage of the language-qualified people and excellent ANG support available around Salt Lake City, Utah. The action created an ESC Reserve airborne unit for wartime and contingency operations. It also allowed ESC to fill airborne crypto linguist shortages and save training fund dollars by recruiting language-proficient people.

14 April: In Operation EL DORADO CANYON, Air Force and Navy aircraft conducted an air strike at night against numerous military and terrorist targets in Libya. Between 13-18 April, ESC units in Europe provided intelligence support to U.S. activities in the operation. That support involved special taskings for the 6917 ESG, 6931 ESS, 6950 ESG, and RC-135/RJ crews from the 6916 ESS. Headquarters ESE served as ESC's executive agent in theater for that effort. The RC-135 provided intelligence support to the Sixth Fleet and later to the search and rescue efforts for a downed F-111.

21 April: ESC created the Command Innovation Center (IC) as an integral part of its long-range planning process. It had a mission to institute a conscious, purposeful search for innovative opportunities throughout ESC. Lieutenant Colonel John A. Lewis became the Center's first director.

June: Contractors finished Building 2007 and the Air Force accepted it. The Air Force Communications Command (AFCC) then installed communications systems through November. After installing furniture, ESC occupied the building in late December.



Building 2007 nears completion

1 August: General Martin pinned on his second star.

August: The 6990 ESG moved its operations from the Army facility at Torii Station, Japan, to Kadena AB. By 1 September 1986, it was operating in the new facility. The move centralized the unit's operations and logistics functions at Kadena. That relocation ended more than 16 years of Army service and support to the 6990 ESG.

8 September: ESC established an Office of Innovation to increase the emphasis on ESC's corporate strategy for innovation. Colonel Rolf Smith headed the office and reported directly to the ESC Chief of Staff.

18 September: ESC received an AFOEA for 1 January 1984 to 31 December 1985.



1 October: Several ESC headquarters units were redesignated or activated as divisions:

- Ramstein AB: Electronic Security Europe (ESE) renamed as European Electronic Security Division (EESD).
- Hickam AFB: Electronic Security Pacific (ESP) renamed Pacific Electronic Security Division (PESD).
- Kelly AFB: 6960 ESW renamed Continental Electronic Security Division (CESD).
- Peterson AFB, Colo: Space Electronic Security Division (SESD) activated.

1 October: The 6903 ESG moved its assets from Hill 170 into the Korean Combat Operations Intelligence Center (KCOIC). Before the 10 December 1986 initial operating capability date, all mission equipment and support functions were operational.

1987

1 January: ESC named the auditorium in Building 2007 as the Bernard A. Larger Auditorium to honor Col Bernard A. Larger (deceased). ESC also decided to modify the Larger Auditorium in Building 2000 into a small office space and briefing room.

1 January: USAFSS established the Constant Web Program with the C3CM data base.

February: The SECAF approved women to crew operational RC-135 missions.

31 March: Staff Sergeant Renata Gross, 6990 ESG, became the command's first female crewmember to fly on an operational RC-135.

27 April: The ESC's first and only Air National Guard unit, the 169 ESS at Hill AFB, received federal recognition to activate on 19 September.

May: The 6912 ESG in Berlin received the 1985 Travis Trophy.

3 July: Brig Gen Paul L. Roberson replaced General Jackson as the Vice Commander. Jackson became the Vice Director of NSA's Joint Special Studies Group at Fort Meade. General Roberson formerly commanded the Good-fellow Technical Training Center at Goodfellow AFB.



*Brig Gen Paul L. Roberson
Vice Commander, 3 Jul 87-31 May 90*

1 August: Colonel Leonard W. Johnson, Jr., Command Surgeon, died when his single engine plane crashed during a thunderstorm five miles south of Kokomo, Ind. He served as Command Surgeon from 16 August 1984 until his untimely death.

8 December: General Martin approved a reorganization that would posture the command for the future and ensure consistency with Air Force guidelines.

23 December: When USAFSS became ESC in August 1979, the command retired its motto, "Freedom Through Vigilance." From December 1986 through 3 June 1987, ESC held a contest to select a new motto. Once again, "Freedom Through Vigilance" became the ESC motto.

"Once again Freedom Through Vigilance became the ESC motto."



1988

1 April: ESC, USAFE, EUCOM, and U. S. Army Europe (USAEUR) signed an agree-ment for the Tactical Reconnaissance Exploitation Demonstration System/TR-1 Ground Station (TREDS/TR1GS) system. The agreement gave ESC's TREDS/TR1GS Director the ability to combine the two intelligence disciplines into a coordinated effort. It formed a Mission Development and Control Element with officers from the 7451st Tactical Intelligence Squadron (TIS), the 6911 ESS, and Det Hahn, 66th Military Intelligence Brigade.

15 April: General Martin forwarded an ESC reorganization package to the Air Staff for approval. The HQ USAF approved the overall command reorganization.

18 May: General Larry D. Welch, the USAF Chief of Staff, approved a new mission for the AFEWC to support electronic combat testing and acquisition.

1 June: The ESC reorganization became effective. The change focused on planning and programming for the mission needs of ESC's four divisions, two centers, and six operational wings in terms of manpower, training, and equipment. The changes allowed ESC to function as a headquarters.

1 June: ESC dissolved the Constant Web Program Office, but the responsibility for program management remained. Under the reorganization, Constant Web's data base production duties moved to the AFEWC, while responsibility for its hardware and software acquisition transferred to ESC's Directorate of Communications.

21 June: Under the April reorganization plan, ESC constituted the 690 ESW in Berlin, Germany, the 693 ESW at RAF Chicksands, and 694 ESW at Kelly AFB.

June-July: SECAF Edward C. Aldridge, Jr., changed the combat exclusion policy for women in the USAF. He opened jobs in Red Horse units and mobile aerial

port squadrons on 8 June, and then assignments to women in the TR-1, U-2, TU-2, C-29, and EC- 130 on 1 July.

20 September: Under April's reorganization plan, ESC activated the 695 ESW at Langley AFB, Va., to support the Tactical Air Command.

7 November: At the Pentagon, General Martin received the 1987 Productivity Enhancement Award for professional excellence. The Air Force attributed ESC's success to creative promotion schemes, program integration, and outstanding Air Force support of key initiatives.

18 November: ESC received an AFOEA for 1 April 1986 to 31 March 1988.

15 December: William Howard Taft IV, Deputy SECDEF, implemented the Civilian Intelligence Personnel Management System. It enhanced the ability to manage the recruitment, retention, and compensation of civilian employees working in intelligence functions.

1989

March: ESC flight-tested the SENIOR SPAN system in the U-2R.

May: The Air Force approved the "Gordon W. Sommers Outstanding Civilian of the Year" award.

26 May: SENIOR SCOUT, a tactical airborne intelligence system designed to replace COMFY LEVI, made its first test flight.

9 June: The first Flowing Pen (COMFY LEVI) mission (CF916) was flown.

1 July: Conversion of ESC and JEWIC civilian employees from competitive to excepted service under the new Civilian Intelligence Personnel Management System (CIPMS) took place.



August: General Martin, ESC Commander, approved a plan to rename the Security Hill picnic area in honor of General Stapleton.

16 August: General Martin retired and Maj Gen Gary W. O'Shaughnessy assumed command of ESC. Before, he was the EUCOM Director of Intelligence.



*Maj Gen Gary W. O'Shaughnessy
Commander, 16 Aug 89-1 Oct 91
AFIC Commander, 1 Oct 91-17 May 93*

October/November: ESC demonstrated the Tactical Information Broadcast Service (COMFY HARVEST).

November: General Roberson, the ESC Vice Commander presented the first ESC display to the USAF Museum, an AN/MSR-1 Communications Security monitoring van. COMFY SABRE replaced that system.

20 December: ESC played an active role in Operation JUST CAUSE. The 6933 ESS performed successfully throughout the operation. Additionally, ESC conducted Electronic Warfare planning in the AFEWC, while providing mission and staff support. Later, the DoD called Operation JUST CAUSE the most successful military operation since WWII, and ESC played a big part in that success.

December: The AF offered C-141, C-130, C-17, and U-2/TR-1 assignments to women.

December: A third U-2 deployed to Osan.

1989: Under the A-76 Commercial Activities Program, ESC's Base Supply function converted from a military/civilian to a civil service operation; however, implementation of the "Most Efficient" base supply support organization had to be extended to 1 April 1990.

1990

15 March: ESC received the SENIOR SCOUT system.

16 March: The SENIOR SCOUT left for Panama on its first operational deployment.



Senior Scout

25 May: The 6903 ESG and Det 2, 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing achieved a milestone when a U-2R OLYMPIC GAME sortie flew its 5,000th mission.

1 July: Mr. Dennis B. Richburg replaced Mr. Gordon W. Sommers as the advisor to the ESC commander. He later became the organization's Technical Director.

1 July: Brig Gen Graham E. Shirley replaced the retiring General Roberson as the ESC Vice Commander. General Shirley came to ESC from the Pentagon, where he served as Deputy Director for Regional Plans and Policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations. He was ESC's last Vice Commander and first Air Force Intelligence Command Vice Commander.



*Brig Gen Graham E. Shirley
Vice Commander, 1 Jul 90-Oct 91
AFIC Vice Commander, 1 Oct 91-29 Aug 92*

2 August: Iraq invaded Kuwait. President George Bush subsequently mobilized U.S. military forces to deploy to the Persian Gulf for Operation DESERT SHIELD.

9 August: The 6916 ESS arrived in Saudi Arabia with two RJ aircraft and two backend crews for Operation DESERT SHIELD.

11 August: Col William C. Bender arrived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to serve as ESC's first Task Force Director for DESERT SHIELD. The 6948 ESS also arrived in Riyadh to participate in the operation.

1 October: The USAF reassigned the 2100 CG from AFCC to ESC to put operations and maintenance for Critical Intelligence Communication (CRITICOMM) under ESC.

1 November: U-2 flights against Cuba, staged from the 6947 ESS, Key West Naval AS ended. A U-2 flew the final mission the day before.

10 November: The 6975 ESS (Provisional) activated at Riyadh.

*“President George Bush
subsequently mobilized U.S. military
forces.”*

13 November: ESC inactivated the 6916 ESS at Hellenikon AB, Greece. For almost 34 years, the 6916th's men and women flew the Baltic and Black Sea routes, above Sudan and Egypt, over the Mediterranean Sea, Adriatic Seas, and the Persian Gulf. The 6916th provided intelligence support to major events in the Mediterranean and Middle East, including the 1967 and 1973 Arab/Israeli wars, Beirut, Gulf of Sidra, the TWA Flight 847 hijacking, ELDORADO CANYON, and the Achille Lauro incident. It was the first ESC unit in Saudi Arabia.

1991

17 January: Operation DESERT SHIELD came to an end with the initiation of Operations DESERT STORM against Iraq.

February: ESC became the first command in the Air Force, and within the intelligence community, to provide a standard set of computer security applications for Computer Security Officers.

28 February: After 42 days of intense combat, Operation DESERT STORM ended with the surrender of Iraqi forces.

1 March: The Mediterranean RC-135 missions, previously flown from Hellenikon AB, began flying from NAS Souda Bay, Crete. ESC activated OL-RS, 6931 ESS at Souda Bay for that purpose.

13 March: OL-RH, 6988 ESS inactivated, thus ending the USAFSS/ESC presence at Hellenikon AB. Operations began there on 1 December 1968. The inactivation marked an end to ESC airborne activities in Greece.

13 March: ESC ended over 17 years of operations at Augsburg by closing the 6913 ESS. The unit offered rapid radio relay, secure communications, and command, control and communications countermeasures support to U.S. and allied forces during that period.



25 April: The 6919 ESS flew a last sortie from Sembach, ending its airborne mission.

21 May: The 6919 ESS inactivated.

May: The 690th Electronic Security Wing in Berlin received the 1990 Travis Trophy.

1 July: ESC decommissioned the last COMFY LEVI system.

16 July: Maj Gen James R. Clapper, Jr., the AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, and General O'Shaughnessy briefed SECAF Donald B. Rice on the proposed Air Force Intelligence Command (AFIC) structure and implementation plans. Afterwards, Rice approved AFIC's activation on 1 October.

23 August: ESC accepted SENIOR TROUPE as an operational asset and gave it to the 6948 ESS for operation and support.

19 September: ESC officials conducted a formal retreat/closure ceremony at Berlin's Marienfelde Airport. Afterwards, ESC gave the site's keys to the host air base group commander. The closure of Marienfelde ended 26 years of premier operations there.



COMFY OLYMPICS III with General Larson

*Competitors for COMFY OLYMPICS
III Competition lining up behind
General Larson*



HQ ESC

AF INTELLIGENCE COMMAND



1991-1993



Air Force Intelligence Command

1991

1 October: The USAF renamed ESC as the Air Force Intelligence Command (AFIC).



Air Force Intelligence Command Emblem

1 October: The Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Collection Operations Division set up a counter-drug operation to execute policy and manage collection activities.

15 December: The 6922 ESS at Clark AB inactivated.

1992

24 January: General Merrill McPeak, the Air Force Chief of Staff, announced the final phase of the objective wing organization structure.

20 February: General O'Shaughnessy selected "PRISM" to replace "COMFY" as the command's nickname for key projects.

13 April: AFIC held its first workshop on Communications Computer Architecture. People from across the Air Force attended.

20 April: SECAF Rice gave AFIC the authority to disclose characteristics and performance details on key Russian and Chinese aerodynamic weapons systems.

1 June: AFIC created an Architecture and Integration Division to develop a communications-computer systems architecture for the command.

8 June: AFIC inactivated the 6985 ESS at Eielson AFB. It provided intelligence support to tactical and national customers for over 30 years. The unit used BURNING WIND, COBRA BALL, and COBRA EYE missions to deliver its intelligence. General O'Shaughnessy stated, "The 6985 ESS should take a special pride in the key role they played" in the Cold War's.

18 June: The 6949 ESS gained control of the COBRA BALL and COBRA EYE programs.

1 July: AFIC inactivated the 690 ESG at Templehof Central Airport.

1 August: The 6917 ESG at San Vito inactivated.

17 August: AFIC supported Task Force Russia to support an American and Russian Joint Commission on Prisoners of War and Missing in Action cases.

27 August: The 600 ESS activated at Langley AFB to support the Contingency Airborne Reconnaissance System (CARS).



*Contingency Airborne
Reconnaissance System*



1 September: Brig Gen David E. Vesely became AFIC's Vice Commander. He came to AFIC from the Pentagon, where he was the Chief, Plans, Concepts and Assessments Division for the Joint Staff.



Brig Gen David E. Vesely
AFIC Vice Commander, 1 Sep 92-1 Oct 93
AIA Vice Commander, 1 Oct 93-28 Mar 94



Maj Gen Kenneth A. Minihan
AFIC Commander, 17 May 93-1 Oct 93
AIA Commander, 1 Oct 93-3 Oct 94

1 August: AFIC formed the Tactical Information Broadcast System (TIBS) Special Management Office with management responsibility for all DoD.

10 September: AFIC redesignated the AFEWC as the Air Force Information Warfare Center (AFIWC).

1993

4 January: AFIC received an AFOEA for 1 October 1991 to 30 September 1992.

26 January: AFIC renamed its Communications, Computer Systems Requirements Processing Working Group as the Command, Control, Communications and Computer (C4) Group.

22 February: General O'Shaughnessy confirmed the end of compliance inspections and start of Quality Force Assessments.

15 March: The SECDEF directed each Service to consolidate its intelligence commands/agencies into a single intelligence element.

17 May: Maj Gen Kenneth A. Minihan replaced the retiring General O'Shaughnessy as AFIC Commander. General Minihan was the USAF Director of Plans and Requirements, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence.

“General O'Shaughnessy confirmed the end of compliance inspections.”

AIR INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



1993-2007



AIR INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

1993

1 October: The Air Force redesignated AFIC as the Air Intelligence Agency (AIA). The change made AIA a field operating agency reporting to the Air Force Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence. General Minihan served as the first commander.



Air Intelligence Agency Emblem

1 October: The 67th Intelligence Wing (IW) activated at Kelly AFB under AIA.

20 December: AIA officially opened its Operations Support Center, the single point of contact for time sensitive intelligence.

1994

28 March: General Vesely left the AIA to become the Commander, Space Warfare Center at Falcon AFB, Colo. His successor did not arrive at AIA until late May.

1 April: AIA inactivated the 696th Intelligence Group (IG) at Andrews AFB, Md. The group performed a Human Intelligence (HUMINT) mission.

30 May: Brig Gen Robert T. Osterthaler assumed duties as AIA's Vice Commander. The general came from Brussels, Belgium, where he served as Air Forces and Crisis Management Planner for the U.S. delegation to the NATO Military Committee.



*Brig Gen Robert T. Osterthaler
AIA Vice Commander, 30 May 94-31 May 95*

1 June: AIA accepted responsibility for COBRA DANE from Space Command. The AN/FPS-108 radar, an electronically-scanned array at Eareckson AS, operated at Shemya AB, Alaska. It became operational in 1977 to verify the SALT II arms limitation treaty.



COBRA DANE at Shemya Island

30 June: The 26th Intelligence Wing (IW) inactivated at Ramstein AB.

1 July: AIA activated the Air Force Cryptologic Office (AFCO) at Fort Meade.

1 September: AIA inactivated three units at Kelly AFB--its Information Services Flight, Management Engineering Flight, and Intelligence Combat Operations Staff.

15 September: The JCS redesignated the JEWIC as the Joint Command and Control Warfare Center (JC2WC).



30 September: General Minihan dedicated a static EC-47 at Vigilance Memorial Park in front of AIA's Building 2000.

3 October: Brig Gen John P. Casciano assumed command of AIA.



*Brig Gen John P. Casciano
Commander, 3 Oct 94-5 Jan 96*

10 October: The Air Force Cryptologic Support Center inactivated at Kelly AFB.

15 November: The 39th Intelligence Squadron (IS) activated at Nellis AFB, Nev.

30 November: The 48 IS activated at Beale AFB, Calif.

1995

23 February: The 68 IS at Brooks AFB celebrated its 46th anniversary. It was the oldest unit at Brooks and one of the original four units in USAFSS.

23 February: The 6975 IS completed its 1000th RIVET JOINT mission in 54 months of support to Operations DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, and SOUTHERN WATCH.

30 March: After 18 months of service, the 67 IW became the only worldwide Air Force intelligence organization.

27 April: Staff Sergeant Beth Yandow became the first female RC-135 RIVET JOINT crew member to qualify as an airborne mission supervisor.

1 June: Colonel Neal T. Robinson, the AIA Director of Operations, replaced General Osterthaler as the AIA Vice Commander on an interim basis.

23 June: General Casciano pinned on his second star.

15 July: Brig Gen Jeffery S. Pilkington became the AIA Vice Commander. He came to the Agency from Ramstein AB where he commanded the 86th Wing.



*Brig Gen Jeffery S. Pilkington
Vice Commander, 15 Jul 95-1 Aug 96*

30 August: The 315th Training Squadron at Goodfellow AFB altered intelligence officer training courses to add more unit specific training and officer/enlisted interaction.

22-23 September: SECAF Dr. Sheila Widnall visited AIA. She stressed the importance of the information domain.

11 October: The CARS finished a year of support to Joint Task Force Southwest Asia.

28 November: AIA received an AFOEA for 1 October 1993 to 30 September 1995.



1996

5 January: Brig Gen Michael V. Hayden assumed command. General Casciano moved to the Pentagon to become the USAF Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence.



*Brig Gen Michael V. Hayden
Commander, 5 Jan 95-5 Sep 97*

28 March: General Hayden pinned on his second star.

30 June: AIA inactivated the 23 IS at Key West NAS and the 33 IS at Howard AFB.

1 August: General Pilkington retired, and on 14 August Brig Gen Regner C. Rider came from the 5th Bomb Wing, Minot AFB, N. Dak., to be the AIA Vice Commander.



*Brig Gen Regner C. Rider
Vice Commander, 14 Aug 96-23 May 98*

December: During exercise Blue Flag 91-1 at the USAF Battle Staff Training School at Hurlburt Field, Fla., 50 technicians from AIA formed an information warfare support team. That team introduced Measurement and Signatures Intelligence to the exercise scenario for the first time.

1997

2 January: General Hayden announced the implementation of “Global Engagement” as a new direction for Air Force operations. Under that program, the Air Force pursued six core competencies. The AIA’s responsibility included the information superiority core competency.

15 January: General Hayden described his vision of AIA becoming the Air Force leader in integrating and conducting information operations. Under that vision, AIA became a full service agency focused on complete information operations to gain, exploit, attack, and defend networks.

February/March: More than 50 AIA personnel participated in Coalition Green Flag 97-3 at Nellis AFB. The agency supported RC-135 RIVET JOINT and EC-130 COMPASS CALL operations, conducted an Electronic Systems Security Assessment, and performed other vital information operations functions. The AIA tested its ability to work with the air campaign planning element and function as part of an integrated team at the operational level of war.

27 February: SECDEF William S. Cohen visited the AIA for briefings on information warfare and the new Air Force Information Warfare Battlelab (AFIWB).

14 March: The 543 IG activated at Lackland’s Medina Annex. It provided command, control, computer and logistics support to the Medina Regional Signals Intelligence Operations Center (MRSOC).

17 March: Air Force Chief of Staff General Ronald Fogleman opened the AFIWB at Kelly AFB.



Generals Fogleman and Hayden Opening the AFIWB

31 March: General Hayden said that AIA was rapidly becoming the Air Force leader in integrating and conducting information operations. In the future, AIA would place its people into several organizations—Air Mobility Command, Air Force Material Command, and Air Combat Command's (ACC) Twelfth Air Force.

28 April: USAF commanders from the U.S. and 13 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries visited AIA to learn about information superiority.

17 June: The 22 IS at Fort Meade, Md., with service in World War I, celebrated its 80th anniversary. The former DIA Director, Lt Gen James R. Clapper (Retired), conducted the ceremonies.

4-6 September: The 390 IS at Kadena AB celebrated 30 years of airborne combat intelligence operations in the Pacific. Unit personnel supported RC-135 COMBAT APPLE operations in the Vietnam War.

5 September: General Hayden left AIA to become the Deputy Chief of Staff for the United Nations Command and U.S. Forces Korea. He relinquished command to Brig Gen James E. Miller, Jr.

“General Hayden relinquished command to Brig Gen James E. Miller, Jr.”



*Brig Gen James E. Miller, Jr.
Commander, 5 Sep 97-17 Aug 98*

20 October: The 690th Information Operations Group (IOG), the Air Force's first such organization, activated at Kelly AFB. The action reflected the Air Force's growing interest in information operations.

22 December: General Miller asked the Air Force to set up an information operations training program at Hurlburt Field. General Miller explained, “Our strategic goals related to gain, exploit, defend and attack operations mandate an aggressive, agency-wide approach to designing, developing and delivering AIA-unique training.”

December 1997-January 1998: AIA's participation in Exercise Blue Flag 98-1 included tactics analysis. The exercise proved the value of information operations to air operations. That success allowed AIA to embed information operators in numbered air forces later.

1998

January 1998: By connecting an AT&T modem to a message system and another to a DSN line at the MRSOC, Mr. Bill Band, TSgt Morgan Perkins, and TSgt Tim Sheppard saved the Air Force and DoD \$2.5 million a year in unneeded charges. That new communications link allowed the 4416 IS to fly RC-135 Rivet Joint sorties from Al Kharj AB, Saudi Arabia, while receiving all communications support from Riyadh.



January 1998: The 68 IS at Brooks AFB became an Electronic Systems Security Analysis Central for the Continental United States. The initiative streamlined operations and helped leverage personnel reductions with technological advances.

31 January: AIA shipped the first Sensor Guard prototype to the Air Force Materiel Command's Electronic Systems Center (ESC) at Hanscom AFB, Mass.

28 February: Brig Gen Regner C. Rider, AIA's Vice Commander, said that AIA would conduct warfare using technology that might exist in 2012 for Global Engage-ment 97. Sponsored by the CSAF, Global Engagement 97 featured the contributions of air and space power in 21st Century joint military operations. The exercise employed the concept of Information Conditions (INFOCONs).

17 March: In its first year, the 820th Security Forces Group (SFG) claimed several major achievements. Its first real action involved support to Exercise Bright Star and Air Expeditionary Force V at Sheikh Isa AB, Bahrain. AIA assets embedded in the 820 SFG provided threat assessments and aided in the development of the Force Protection Plan.

1 April: The 316th Training Squadron at Goodfellow AFB graduated 12 students from its first Serbo-Croatian Language Course.

1 April: Det 4, 67 IG, moved to Air Mobility Command (AMC) at Scott AFB, Ill. The detachment became the newest weapon in the Air Force's information operations arsenal. Since activation in August 1997, the unit used Information Operations (IO) to exploit adversary vulnerabilities, while protecting AMC communications and information systems.

April: The 123 IS at Little Rock AFB, Ark., one of two Air National Guard units in AIA, participated in America's drug war. The unit processed nearly 90 percent of all C-26 aerial photographs in the US for the identification of drug fields.

23 May: The Air Force reassigned General Rider to Eighth Air Force at Barksdale AFB, La., to be its Vice Commander. His replacement, Brig Gen Paul J. Lebras, moved from ACC at Langley AFB to be the AIA Vice Commander. At ACC, General Lebras served as Associate Director of Operations for Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Directorate of Air and Space Operations.



*Brig Gen Paul J. Lebras
Vice Commander, 23 May 98-25 Oct 99*

January-December: The CARS Deployable Ground Station-2 completed its 400th CREEK TORCH support mission. DGS-2, with resources from ACC's 13 IS and AIA's 48 IS, supported the EUCOM's intelligence collection requirements and protected NATO Stabilization Forces in the Balkans.

5 August: The USAF Chief of Staff, General Michael E. Ryan, released the first Air Force information operations doctrine. It defined IO as consisting of Information-in Warfare (IIW) and Information Warfare (IW). IIW encompassed all intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, weather, precision navigation and dissemination activities. IW included the offensive and defensive aspects of psychological operations, EW, deception, denial, and information defend and attack activities.

17 August: Brig Gen John R. Baker assumed command of AIA and JC2WC at Kelly AFB. General Miller retired from the Air Force after 29-plus years of service.



*Brig Gen John R. Baker
Commander 17 Aug 98-31 Jan 2000*

17 August: Command responsibility for JC2WC transitioned to the U. S. Atlantic Command in Norfolk, Va. The JC2WC provided direct command and control warfare support to operational commanders around the world.

14 September: AIA received an AFOEA for 1 October 1995 to 30 September 1997.

2 October: Mr. Dennis B. Richburg, AIA Technical Director, retired after a civilian and military career that spanned nearly four decades.

November: General Baker and his wife Judy received the General Jerome F. O'Malley award for their work at Kadena AB during his tenure as the 18th Wing Commander. It recognized them for their contributions to the nation, the Air Force and the local community.

1999

9 April: After almost 50 years of service, the Technical Operations Division at McClellan AFB, Calif., closed its doors and inactivated.

17 September: General Baker conducted ceremonies for the POW/MIA Recognition Day to honor contributions to the country.

24 September: General Baker opened the new AIA Heritage Center with several different displays of intelligence history and the legacy of AIA. It was the only facility in the Air Force dedicated to air intelligence.



AIA Heritage Center

25 October: General Lebras, the AIA Vice Commander, became the Joint Staff Vice Director for Intelligence and DIA Vice Director for Intelligence.

29 October: Brig Gen Carol C. Elliot became the unit's first female Vice Commander. She previously served as the JCS Vice Director for Intelligence.



*Brig Gen Carol C. Elliot
Vice Commander, 29 Oct 99-29 Jun 01*

December: AIA's Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Division ended its second year of operations. The USAF recognized it as the PSYOP Center of Excellence.



2000

4 January: Mr. Dennis H. Alvey assumed the duties of Executive Director of AIA from Mr. Dennis B. Richburg.

14 January: General Baker dedicated an O-2 Skymaster Psychological Operations Aircraft and AQM-34L Reconnaissance Drone by Building 2000.

24 January: AIA received an AFOEA for 1 October 1997-30 September 1999.

31 January: Brig Gen Bruce A. Wright, the former JCS Deputy Director for Information Operations, assumed command of AIA.



*Maj Gen Bruce A. Wright
Commander, 31 Jan 00-20 Feb 02*

February: A 488 IS aircrew from RAF Mildenhall flew a new RC-135 RIVET JOINT on its first operational mission. The sortie over the Balkans region marked the first time in nearly 30 years that a new RJ aircraft had joined the existing fleet.

30 March: The second new RC-135 RJ aircraft joined the inventory at Offutt AFB.

21 April: General Wright pinned on his second star.

1 August: The 566th Operations Support Squadron at Buckley ANG Base, Colo., became the 566th Information Operations Squadron (IOS) with a mission to support national-level communications, data processing, and high speed relays.

2 August: The 692nd Intelligence Support Squadron (ISS) inactivated, and functions merged into the 692 IG.

4 August: The 12th Expeditionary Intelligence Squadron completed its tenth year of intelligence support to Joint Task Force Southwest Asia and its air patrols over Iraq's southern no-fly zone.

15 October: Raytheon Systems delivered the 15th and last RC-135 to ACC.

1 November: The 92nd Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron activated under the 318 IOG, an AFIWC unit.

20 November: At Osan AB, the 303 IS celebrated its 50th anniversary.

2001

30 January-9 February: AIA played in its most robust Blue Flag exercise to date with full participation from the 67 IOW.

THE AIR COMBAT COMMAND PERIOD

1 February: The Air Force aligned AIA under ACC. The change placed AIA's two wings, the 67 IOW at Kelly AFB and 70 IW at Fort Meade under ACC's Eighth Air Force. AIA's commander picked up additional duties as the Eighth Air Force Deputy Commander for IO.

1 February: Gen John Jumper, the ACC Commander, explained the reason for the subordination: "Decision quality data needs to flow fast and free to all levels—between air operations centers, the shooters, the controllers and the intelligence community."

1 February: The 390 IS at Kadena AB and the 488 IS at RAF Mildenhall officially became part of Eighth Air Force.



11 June: The 68 IOS at Brooks AFB earned recognition from higher headquarters as the most significant contributor to the Air Force's operational security posture.

29 June: General Elliot retired. In the next two months, Col James C. Massaro fulfilled the Vice Commander's duties. Massaro was the Assistant Vice Commander.



*Col James C. Massaro
Vice Commander, 29 Jun 01-4 Sep 01*

4 September: Brig Gen Neal T. Robinson returned as AIA's Vice Commander, but he worked at Fort Meade in AFCE with NSA. He previously worked as the Director of Intelligence at EUCOM.



*Brig Gen Neal T. Robinson
Vice Commander, 4 Sep 01-31 May 05*

11 September: Terrorists attacked New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. The attack led to Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE.

11 October: Det 1, 18 IS deployed to Southwest Asia. The squadron achieved operational status within 16 hours.

2002

20 February: Brig Gen Paul J. Lebras (later Major General) assumed command of AIA. He previously served as the AIA Vice Commander from 1998-1999.



*Brig Gen Paul J. Lebras
Vice Commander, 23 May 98-25 Oct 99*

15 April: During the ground-breaking ceremony for a new guard gate on Security Hill, U. S. Representative Ciro Rodriguez, (D-Texas, San Antonio) commented on AIA: "You are essential to our nation's offensive and defensive air operations throughout the world, and I'm grateful for the contributions you make to our national defense."

31 May: AIA received an Air Force Organizational Excellence Award for the period 1 October 1999 to 31 January 2001.

June-August: BLACK DEMON, a multi-command exercise designed to enhance the Air Force's computer network defense capability, ended after two weeks of extensive exercise play. The exercise validated the effectiveness of network defense tactics against worldwide attack.



7 August: Staff Sergeant Shane Kimmett, a Direct Support Operator assigned to AIA's 25 IOS at Hurlburt Field, died along with nine other aircrew members in an MC-130H Combat Talon crash. It crashed while on a training flight from NAS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, to the island's west coast.

2003

4 January: Mr. Dennis H. Alvey, the AIA Executive Director, retired.

15 January: The National Air Intelligence Center (NAIC) reopened its Imagery Analysis Facility. It converted to a digital imagery facility from a photo-processing laboratory.

22 January: More than 60 senior officers gathered at the AIA for the first Eighth Air Force/AIA Day. The conference helped to educate the attendees and generate dialogue on IO, intelligence, and other integration-related topics.

January 2003: During the annual Tactics Review Board at Nellis AFB the participants decided to incorporate IO in future Air Force tactics.

23 February: ACC redesignated NAIC as the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC). That name change better represented and accurately described the center's responsibilities and mission, which included foreign space analysis.

25 February: The 690 SptSq, long associated with USAFSS and AIA, inactivated at Lackland AFB.

3 March: The USAF deployed a Global Hawk prototype, Aerial Vehicle 3, to the Persian Gulf for a possible war with Iraq.

19 March: Operation IRAQI FREEDOM began. Air Force aircraft dropped the first PDU-5/B leaflet bombs to tell the Iraqis that the Americans were coming to liberate them from Saddam Hussein's regime.

21 March: On the third day of IRAQI FREEDOM, the USAF had 52 intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft active in the combat zone.

9 April: U.S. forces captured Baghdad.

15 April: Mr. Jer Donald Get became AIA's Executive Director.

1 May: President George W. Bush declared an end to major combat operations in Iraq.

1 August: AIA received an Air Force Organizational Excellence Award for 1 June 2001 to 31 May 2003.

11 August: General Lebras joined Dr. Richard Romo, the President of the University of Texas at San Antonio, to dedicate the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS). The CIAS conducted research and development on critical and complex information assurance and security focused matters. The effort developed end products that offered technology transfers among government, academia, and industry.

1 December: HQs ACC activated the 480 IW and 497 IG at Langley AFB, and 548 IG at Beale AFB to operate the Distributed Common Ground Station (DCGS).

2004

February: AIA took over control over RAF Menwith Hill Station in England. That assignment gave AIA the responsibility for base operations for the first time in 29 years.

21 May: AIA Assistant Vice Commander, Col James Massaro, retired.



20 July-5 August: AIA units participated in Joint Expeditionary Forces Experiment (JEFX) 2004. JEFX conducted, explored, and validated new air and space capabilities to provide warfighters and national decision makers with an array of options to face future challenges.

October: The AIA Sensor Olympics program celebrated its 25th anniversary. The program continued to recognize the agency's outstanding enlisted technicians. General Larson, the program's originator, dedicated a display to the program and its participants during the proceedings.

2005

Early 2005: The Transportable Medium Earth Terminal (TMET) II System became operational at the 480 IW. The TMET allowed enhanced communications with U-2 aircraft flying missions worldwide.

31 March: TSgt Glenn Lastes, a Direct Support Operator in Det 2, 25 IOS, died in a MC-130H Combat Talon II crash in Albania. The mishap claimed the lives of eight other Air Force Special Operations Command airmen.

26 April: A new Language Learning Center opened at Offutt AFB. Created in the 55th Wing's 338th Combat Training Squadron with a great amount of support and funding from AIA, the center gave airborne linguists training in high density languages.

1 May: The 70th Operations Group and 70th Mission Support Group activated at Fort Meade under the 70 IW. The new units made the wing look like a standard Air Force combat wing.

31 May: The AIA Vice Commander and Air Force Cryptologic Office (AFCO) Director at Fort Meade, Brig Gen Neal T. Robinson, retired. Colonel Anthony Bair assumed the Vice duties on an interim basis through 1 October; thereafter, the position remained vacant until late January 2006.



*Col Anthony Bair
Vice Commander, 31 May 05-1 Oct 05*

September: The 480 IW and 548 IG provided intelligence, communications, and mission reachback support to Joint Task Force Katrina and U.S. Northern Command. Katrina seriously damaged the Gulf Coast.

6 October: Maj Gen John C. Koziol assumed command of AIA from General Lebras, who retired. General Koziol previously led the 55th Wing at Offutt AFB. His assumption of command coincided with the beginning of the most profound changes in Air Force intelligence in over 30 years.



*Maj Gen John C. Koziol
AIA Commander, 6 Oct 04-08 Jun 07
AFISRA Commander, 8 Jun 07-11 Feb 09*

“Maj Gen John C. Koziol assumed command of AIA from General Lebras, who retired.”



2006

29 January: Arriving from Kadena AB, Japan, where he commanded the 18th Wing, Brig Gen Jan-Marc Jouas became the AIA Vice Commander. He continued in that position through the 8 June 2007 redesignation of AIA as the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency.



Brig Gen Jan-Marc Jouas
AIA Vice Commander, 29 Jan 06-8 Jun 08
AFISRA Vice Commander, 8 Jun-11 Jul 08

5 July: The Air Force's mission interests in computer network operations sparked the first movements into cyberspace as an Air Force domain. ACC created a network warfare wing by redesignating the 67 IOW at Lackland AFB as the 67th Network Warfare Wing.

5 July: The 70 IW at Fort Meade realigned under AIA. That action began AIA's transformation from a SIGINT to an intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance organization. The reorganization returned the Air Force's "heavy lift" cryptologic wing to AIA's leadership. The 70 IW integrated Air Force capabilities into global cryptologic operations, directly supporting national-level decision makers, combatant commanders and tactical warfighters.

1 August: AIA received an AFOEA for 1 June 2004-31 May 2006.

August: The CSAF asked Lt Gen David Deptula, the DCS for Intelligence on the Air Staff, to develop a plan to transform Air Force intelligence within 90 days. The AIA served as a key participant in all levels of planning, which led the CSAF to approve the plan in December 2006.

1 October: The Air Force redesignated the Air Force Information Warfare Center as the Air Force Information Operations Center (AFIOC).

1 November: General Koziol restructured his headquarters with an A-staff to align AIA with Air Staff and joint organizations. The realignment also better positioned the AFCO with its NSA counterparts and Det 2, Langley AFB with the Combat Air Force.

2007

January: The CSAF changed the focus in HAF/A2 from intelligence to ISR.

8 May: The first of three transformations in Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) began with a notice that AIA would be renamed as the AF ISR Agency. It received a new mission to: organize, train, equip and present ISR forces to joint warfighters and the nation. Under this reorganization, the AF ISR Agency became a Field Operating Agency (FOA) under the DCS for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (HAF/A2).

"The Air Force's mission interest in computer network operations sparked the first movements into cyberspace as an Air Force domain."

AIR FORCE ISR AGENCY



2007 - PRESENT



AF INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE AGENCY

2007

8 June: AIA became the AF ISR Agency and the effort began to broaden its mission from SIGINT to all aspects of ISR. As its first transformation, the AF ISR Agency turned its National-Tactical Integration (NTI) initiative into a funded AF program with significant resources under the 70 IW.

1 July: The AF ISR Agency expanded its support to Special Operations by activating a new squadron, the 25 IS at Hurlburt Field.

27 July: General Koziol recognized an early pioneer in the AF ISR Agency's history by renaming Building 2007 as Larson Hall to honor Maj Gen Doyle Larson (retired), the last USAFSS and first ESC commander. Less than a month later, General Larson passed away.

September: The AF ISR Agency briefed HAF/A2 on a proposal to rebuild a service-based human intelligence (HUMINT) capability.

October: General Deptula approved the activation of the AF's first HUMINT organization in 2008.

October: The AF ISR Agency decided to create groups and squadrons within NASIC to professionalize the military workforce and to better align the center with other DoD warfighting organizations.

2008

14 January: Phase II of Air Force ISR Transformation began with CSAF direction to ACC, PACAF and USAFE to transfer DCGS capabilities and units to the AF ISR Agency. That transfer created the first-ever integrated DCGS global, net-centric ISR weapon system under one organization. It allowed the presentation of ISR forces to key warfighting numbered Air Forces through singular theater ISR groups.

January: HAF/A2 designated the AF ISR Agency as the AF Geospatial Intelligence Element (AFGE). That assignment began the advocacy of Air Force GEOINT requirements and capabilities through one focal point, the AF ISR Agency, for the first time.

26 February: the Air Force reassigned the 480 IW from Air Combat Command to the AF ISR Agency.

26 March: The Air Force approved the unitization of NASIC, which included the standup of groups and squadrons.

March: The agency presented a draft AF ISR CONOPS to HAF/A2 that described ISR as an AF core mission area and separating ISR strategic planning from the previous Space and C4ISR CONOPS.

1 April: The 693 IG gained the 24 IS with its reassignment from USAFE.

1 April: The Air Force changed the Air Force Technical Applications Center from a Field Operating Agency to a subordinate unit of the AF ISR Agency.

Mid-April: SECDEF Robert Gates stood-up the DoD ISR Task Force. Shortly afterwards, the task force established Project Liberty to deploy modified C-12 Huron aircraft to Iraq and Afghanistan to improve the USAF's tactical ISR capability.

5 May: ACC transferred the 25 IS at Hurlburt Field from the 55th Wing to the AF ISR Agency. That transfer was the second important step in increasing ISR support to special operations.

11 July: The AF ISR Agency Vice Commander, Brig Gen Jan-Marc Jouas, left Lackland AFB to become the Director of Operations, Plans, Requirements, and Programs for Pacific Air Forces at Hickam AFB.



15 July: The 694 IG stood up at Osan AB signifying the first move towards for a five-theater group structure for the 480 IW.

4 August: Colonel Jon A. Kimminau, the agency's Director of Plans and Programs became the Vice Commander.



*Col John A. Kimminau
Vice Commander, 11 Jul 08-18 May 09*

30 September: The USAF selected General Koziol for promotion to Lieutenant General. He became the first career intelligence officer in the unit's history to be nominated for a third star while commanding the organization. Several commanders received that rank after serving in this unit.

29 October: The AF ISR Agency activated the 361st ISR Group at Hurlburt Field. The new group, under the operational control of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), controlled the 19th Intelligence Squadron at Pope AFB, N. C., and the 25th Intelligence Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

31 October: General Norman A. Schwartz, the Chief of Staff of the USAF, visited the AF ISR Agency for a mission orientation. He also visited other Lackland functions.

2009

Early 2009: the DCGS transitioned from its acquisition phase to full sustainment under the direction of the AF ISR Agency.

1 January: The AF ISR Agency renamed the 480th and 70th Intelligence Wings, along with their subordinate groups, as ISR units. The agency also inactivated the 607th Air Intelligence Squadron at Osan AB, the Pacific Air Forces Air Intelligence Squadron at Hickam AFB, and the 70th Operations Group at Ft Meade. As replacement units, the agency activated the 6 IS at Osan, 8 IS at Hickam, and 70th ISR Group at Ft Meade.

15 January: General William F. Fraser III, the Air Force Vice Chief of Staff visited the agency to discuss ISR and other matters with General Koziol and his staff.

23 January: The USAF decided to deploy 37 MC-12W aircraft to Iraq and Afghanistan in April to enhance high-value targeting and various other tactical intelligence missions. PROJECT LIBERTY, a \$950 million program, procured 31 sensor-equipped Hawker-Beechcraft C-12 aircraft and deployed 100 ISR personnel to intelligence fusion centers on the battlefield. At those locations the ISR specialists analyzed data collected by the aircraft. The USAF also secured funding for seven more aircraft in a supplemental Fiscal Year 2009 defense budget request.



Project Liberty (MC-12W)

11 February: Maj Gen Bradley A. Heithold took command of the AF ISR Agency. The outgoing commander, General Koziol, pinned on his third star after the ceremony. He then became the Deputy Under SECDEF (Intelligence) for Joint and Coalition Warfighter Support, and the Director of the DoD ISR Task Force at the Pentagon.



*Maj Gen Bradley A. Heithold
Commander, 11 Feb 09-11 Jul 11*

15 April: The AF ISR Agency activated the 7 IS at Ft Meade under the 70 ISR Wing.

18 May: Colonel Jon A. Kimminau, the AF ISR Agency Vice Commander, left to command the Air Force Intelligence Analysis Agency at the Pentagon.

8 June: Brig Gen (select) John D. Stauffer assumed duties as the AF ISR Agency vice commander. He came from Fort Meade, where he commanded the 70th ISR Wing.



*Brig Gen John D. Stauffer
Vice Commander, 8 Jun 09- 6 Sep 10*

9 June: After arriving in Iraq in early June, the first PROJECT LIBERTY MC-12W flew its first combat sortie from Joint Base Balad, Iraq. The successful mission placed AF ISR Agency personnel aboard to collect and analyze intelligence.

16 June: The AF ISR Agency activated an operating location of the 22 IS at Barksdale AFB, La., to provide National Tactical Integration (NTI) support to the 608th Air Operations Center at Eighth Air Force.

10 July: The Agency reassigned the 70th Communications Squadron and the 70th Mission Support Squadron to the 70th ISR Group. Those units were previously assigned to the 70th Mission Support Group.

15 July: The AF ISR Agency inactivated the 690th Alteration and Installation Squadron (ALIS). In its place, the agency once again activated the 668 ALIS.

31 July: Colonel Stauffer pinned on Brigadier General in an agency ceremony.

29 December: An PROJECT LIBERTY MC-12W flew its first combat mission in Afghanistan.

2010

January: Following a contract award, the USAF bought four King Air 90s (the U-21) for Project BLUE DEVIL. The aircraft then flew their first missions in Afghanistan in December 2010. By the end of 2011, the U-21 had flown over 600 missions to collect information on insurgent activities.



Project Blue Devil (U-21K)



12 January: A 7.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti, claimed 200,000 lives, and seriously damaged Haiti's facilities and transportation infrastructure. The U.S. government and DoD initiated Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE to provide assistance and disaster relief.

13 January: The 361st ISR Group at Hurlburt Field deployed French linguists to Haiti to support UNIFIED RESPONSE.

22 January: The agency hosted the first Integrated Process Team meeting to stand-up an ISR group at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

26-28 January: The AF ISR Agency hosted the ISR Imagery Symposium.

28 January: Final changes to Air Force Program Action Directive (PAD) 07-08 ensured that manpower for the Computer Network Operations correctly aligned to the AF ISR Agency.

1 February: The AF ISR Agency reassigned NASIC's Command, Control, Communications and Computer/Information Operations Squadron from its Global Threats Analysis Group to its Air and Cyberspace Analysis Group.

4 February: The agency held an Integrated Process Team to relocate the 18 IS from Vandenberg AFB to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, by October 2010.

24 March: Through its Lessons Learned Branch (A9Y), the AF ISR Agency began data collection on the Project Liberty PED Development program. The collection effort ended on 15 August.

29 March: The AF ISR Agency hosted Twenty-Fourth Air Force for a day of cyber-related discussions.

1 May: The Logistics Director, Col Eric J. Payne, implemented a Logistics Compliance Assessments Program throughout the AF ISR Agency and its enterprise.

15 April: The AF ISR Agency activated the 480 ISRG (Provisional) and the 3 IS at Fort Gordon, Ga. The group and its two squadrons (3 IS and 31 IS) worked with other tri-service elements at NSA/CSS Georgia.

6 May: The agency moved the 18 IS, with personnel and equipment, from Vandenberg AFB, Calif., to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

17 May: Testing of two BLUE DEVIL King Air 90 aircraft took place at the Yuma Proving Grounds in Arizona.

1 June: The agency activated three support squadrons—the 792 ISS, 693 ISS and 694 ISS—to support the intelligence groups at Hickam AFB, Ramstein AB, and Osan AB.

9 June: The AF ISR Agency and the Air Education and Training Command held the first class for the MC-12W ISR Exploitation Cell (ISREC) at Key Field, Meridian, Miss.

9 July: The USAF deployed its 30th and last MC-12W PROJECT LIBERTY aircraft to Afghanistan, while still flying reduced operations from Iraq.

27 July: The Logistics Readiness Division (A4R) received the GORGON STARE equipment's airlift certification to move the systems' heavier equipment by military air.

2 August: At Wright-Patterson AFB, the agency activated the Global Activities Squadron under NASIC to restart the USAF Human Intelligence (HUMINT) program.

31 August: The AFISRA Commander, General Heithold, held an offsite meeting with his key staff, the Wing and Center Commanders, and Command Chiefs to form the agency's goals for the next year.



1 September: Operation IRAQI FREEDOM became NEW DAWN. Agency forces continued their high operations tempo for the ISR mission in Iraq.

6 September: General Stauffer, the Vice Commander took an assignment to Kabul, Afghanistan, where he served as the Deputy to the Deputy Chief of Staff of Intelligence, International Security Assistance Force, U.S. Central Command, Kabul, Afghanistan.

6 September: General Heithold named Col Ronald R. Ratton, his Staff Judge Advocate, as the new vice commander.



*Col Ronald R. Ratton
Vice Commander, 6 Sep-14 Nov 10*

8 September: The agency renamed the Cyber Analysis Squadron as the 35 IS. In another action, the 34 IS, activated under the 707 ISR Group at Ft Meade. The agency also activated the 659 ISRG under the 70 ISR Wing at Ft Meade to replace the 770 ISR Group (Provisional).

27 September: The 693 ISRG at Ramstein AB, Germany, deemed DGS-4 mission ready after an Operational Users Evaluation (OUE) of new Block 10.2 software.

1 October: The agency's Directorate of Information and Communications took on the Information Assurance (IA) mission of the AF DCGS.

5 October: The HAF/A2 directed AFISRA to continue the ISR Research, Development, Training and Employment (RDT &E) for the Common Data Link (CDL) program.

13 October: The NSA granted Twenty-Fourth Air Force the cryptologic authority to operate the cyber mission for the Air Force.

1 November: The agency's Directorate of Information and Communications took over the DoD Intelligence Information System (DODIIS) Cross Domain Management Office (DCDMO) from AFISRA's Det 7 at Langley AFB.

2 November: General Heithold approved the activation of a new squadron at Beale AFB under the 480th ISR Wing to provide Mission Qualification Training (MQT) for the DCGS weapon system.

14 November: Colonel Ratton became the assistant vice commander when Brig Gen Scott A. Bethel arrived to be the Vice Commander. Bethel served previously as the Director ISR Strategy, Integration and Doctrine under the Deputy Chief of Staff for JSR at Headquarters USAF.



*Brig Gen Scott A. Bethel
Vice Commander, 14 Nov 10-16 May 12*

15 November: The agency inactivated the 480 ISRG (P) to activate the permanent 480 ISRG at Fort Gordon.



2011

8-10 February: The agency's Directorate of Operations (A3) hosted an Expeditionary Processing, Exploitation and Dissemination (PED) conference.

26 February: The United States demanded the end of violence in Libya by forces loyal to Colonel Gaddafi.

11 March: A major 8.9 magnitude earthquake, which triggered a 30 to 40-foot Tsunami wave, hit Japan. Although most U.S. servicemen and women in Japan were not affected by the quake, the agency's 373d ISR Group at Misawa AB lost electricity and telecommunications for several hours. The Agency provided personnel and assets to support the resulting Operation TOMODACHI.

16-17 March: General Heithold hosted an off-site meeting on organizational issues. He decided to rebalance his headquarters to make it look smaller. As his first action, Heithold reassigned the 668th Alternations and Installations Squadron from the AF ISR Agency to the 543d ISR Group at nearby Medina Base, an annex of Lackland AFB.

17 March: The UN authorized a no-fly zone over Libya to protect its civilians.

22-23 March: The agency's Det 2, Air Force Cryptologic Office (AFCO) and its Operations Directorate hosted a Global Aviation Analysis SIGINT Team (GAAST) program management review at NSA Washington.

31 March: NATO assumed air operations in Libya for UNIFIED PROTECTOR.

1 April: The AF ISR Agency inactivated Det 1, 22d Intelligence Squadron and activated the 526th Intelligence Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nev., there to integrate agency activities into the USAF Warfare Center.

14 April: The AF ISR Agency activated Det 2, 548 ISR Group at Beale AFB to support Project Liberty.

22 June: The AF JSR Agency inactivated Det 2, 548th ISR Group at Beale AFB and activated the 306th Intelligence Squadron (Provisional) in its place.

1 July: AFCO transferred the GAAST responsibilities to the AF ISR Agency's ISR (A2) Directorate.

19 July: Maj Gen Robert P. Otto took command of the AF ISR Agency from General Heithold, who received his third star and a new job as the U.S. Special Operations Command's Vice Commander.



*Maj Gen Robert P. Otto
Commander 18 Jul 11- 7 Jun 13*

1 October: The AF ISR Agency inactivated Detachment 1, 450th Intelligence Squadron at Darmstadt and in its place activated the 402 IS. The 402d traced its history to the 2d Radio Squadron Mobile, one of the first four units originally assigned to USAFSS.

17 October: The AFSOC Commander, Lt Gen Eric E. Fiel expressed his desire to expand its ties to AF ISR Agency beyond the 361 ISR Group's Special Operations Force-specific mission.

“Maj Gen Robert P. Otto took command of AF ISR Agency”



20-21 October: The ISR Weapons and Tactics (WEPTAC) Branch hosted the fourth ISR Tactics Review Board and (WEPTAC) conference at the USAF Weapons Center, Nellis AFB.

1 November: The agency inactivated Det 1, 25 IS and activated the 43 IS at Cannon AFB, N. Mex., to support the AF Special Operations Command activities there.

23 November: During his weekly staff meeting, General Otto decided to reassign Det 4, AF ISR Agency, to the 543 ISR Group as a rebalancing move. The Det evolved into the 743 ISS in 2012.

2012

10 January: The U.S. Navy acquired the USNS Howard O. Lorenzen (COBRA KING) for the Air Force with a scheduled delivery of the ship to the Air Force sometime in 2013.

27 February: The agency inactivated its Detachment 4, and activated Det 1, 543d ISR Group and the 743 ISS (Provisional) as subordinate units under the group.

27 March: The Independent Strategic Assessment Group (ISAG) visited the agency to study the operational and organizational structure of Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance.

16 May: General Scott A. Bethel, the AF ISR Agency's Vice Commander, retired.

17 May: The agency published "Multi-INT Fusion White Paper," which defined fusion terms, assumptions, risks and issues.

15 June: The agency activated the 548th Operations Support Squadron (OSS) at Beale AFB, under the 548 ISR Group.

30 June: The AF issued a stop work order on Project BLUE DEVIL, Phase II.

6 July: The agency activated the 497 OSS at Langley AFB, under the 497 ISR Group.

12 July: The 480 ISR Wing Commander, Col Paul D. Nelson, became the AF ISR Agency's Vice Commander.



*Colonel Paul D. Nelson
Vice Commander 12 Jul 12-6 Jun 13*

27 July: The agency activated the 45 IS at Langley AFB under the 497th ISR Group.

1 October: The agency restructured NASIC and its units, turning the Air and Cyberspace Analysis Group to Air and Cyberspace Intelligence Group; the Space and Missiles Analysis Group to Space, Missiles and Forces Intelligence Group; the Data Analysis Group to the Geospatial and Signatures Intelligence Group; and the Global Threat Analysis Group to Global Exploitation Intelligence Group. Five squadrons were also realigned.

5 October: The agency inactivated the 306 IS (Provisional) and activated the permanent 306 IS at Beale AFB.

9 November: The ISAG returned to the AF ISR Agency to gather more ISR data.

2013

15 January: The AF ISR Agency earned an AFOEA for its activities between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2011.



22 February: General Otto issued a question and answers guide to ISR civilians on a possible furlough under the Budget Reduction Act of 2010 and the sequestration actions that began earlier on 1 January.

1 March: The 543d ISR Group activated the permanent 743 ISS in ceremony held in the AF ISR Agency's courtyard.

11 April: The SECDEF nominated Maj Gen Robert P. Otto for appointment to lieutenant general and an assignment as the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance in the Pentagon.

27 April: Four airmen died in an MC-12 PROJECT LIBERTY aircraft crash near Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The four men were on an Operation ENDURING FREEDOM combat mission. They were SSgt Richard Dickson, Capt Brandon Cyr, Capt Reid Nishizuka, and SSgt Daniel Fannin.

16 May: General Otto announced a DoD 11-day civilian furlough, beginning 8 July.

7 June: In a change of command ceremony, Maj Gen John N.T. Shanahan took over the agency's leadership from General Otto.



*Maj Gen John N.T. Shanahan
Commander, 7 Jun 13-*

11 July: The 70 ISR Wing Commander, Col Mary F. O'Brien, became the AF ISR Agency Vice Commander. She continued to work at Fort Meade.



*Colonel Mary F. O'Brien
Vice Commander, 11 July - 9 Jun 2014*

22 July: The 318th Information Operations Group Commander, Col Timothy D. Haugh, became the Assistant Vice Commander.



*Colonel Timothy D. Haugh
Assistant Vice Commander
22 Jul 13-15 May 14*

31 July: The DoD directed a 20 percent cut in management headquarters staff. Through the rest of 2013, the action did not affect the AF ISR Agency.

6 August: SECDEF Charles T. Hagel reduced the civilian furloughs from 11 to 6 days. Legislative action enabled DoD to reprogram funds to implement the change.



8 August: General Shanahan published his “Commander’s Intent” to initiate a strategic planning process in the agency.

2 October: A government shutdown, the first since 1995, furloughed much of the Agency’s civilian workforce. They returned to work on 7 October.

2014

8 January: The President nominated Colonel O’Brien for her first star. The promotion also resulted in a reassignment.

14 May: Leaving Fort Meade, Brigadier General O’Brien moved to Kabul in Afghanistan to become the deputy to the DCS for Intelligence, Hqs International Security Assistance Force and Deputy Director, Operations and Support (J-2), U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, USCENTCOM.

16 June: Colonel Peter Lambert left his command position at NSA-Texas in San Antonio to become the AF ISR Agency’s new Vice Commander.



*Colonel Peter Lambert
Vice Commander*

25 June: General Shanahan hosted an off-site conference for his staff to discuss the agency’s reorganization as Twenty-Fifth Air Force (25 AF). The topics included an organizational status update, the way ahead for the Service Cryptologic Commander (SCC) staff, the new operations center, and personnel issues.

14 July: The Air Force officially announced that the AF ISR Agency would be redesignated as 25 AF.

31 July: The 301 IS moved without personnel and equipment from Misawa AB to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson AFB, Alaska.

16 August: The AF ISR Agency reassigned the 451 IS from the 691 ISRG to the 70 ISR Wing.

19 August: The AF ISR Agency reassigned the 743 ISS from the 543 ISRG to its Communications Directorate.

15 September: The AF ISR Agency inactivated the 691 ISRG at Menwith Hill, U.K.

29 September: The Air Force as a subordinate numbered air force of ACC.



*Twenty-Fifth Air Force Redesignation Ceremony,
29 September 2014*

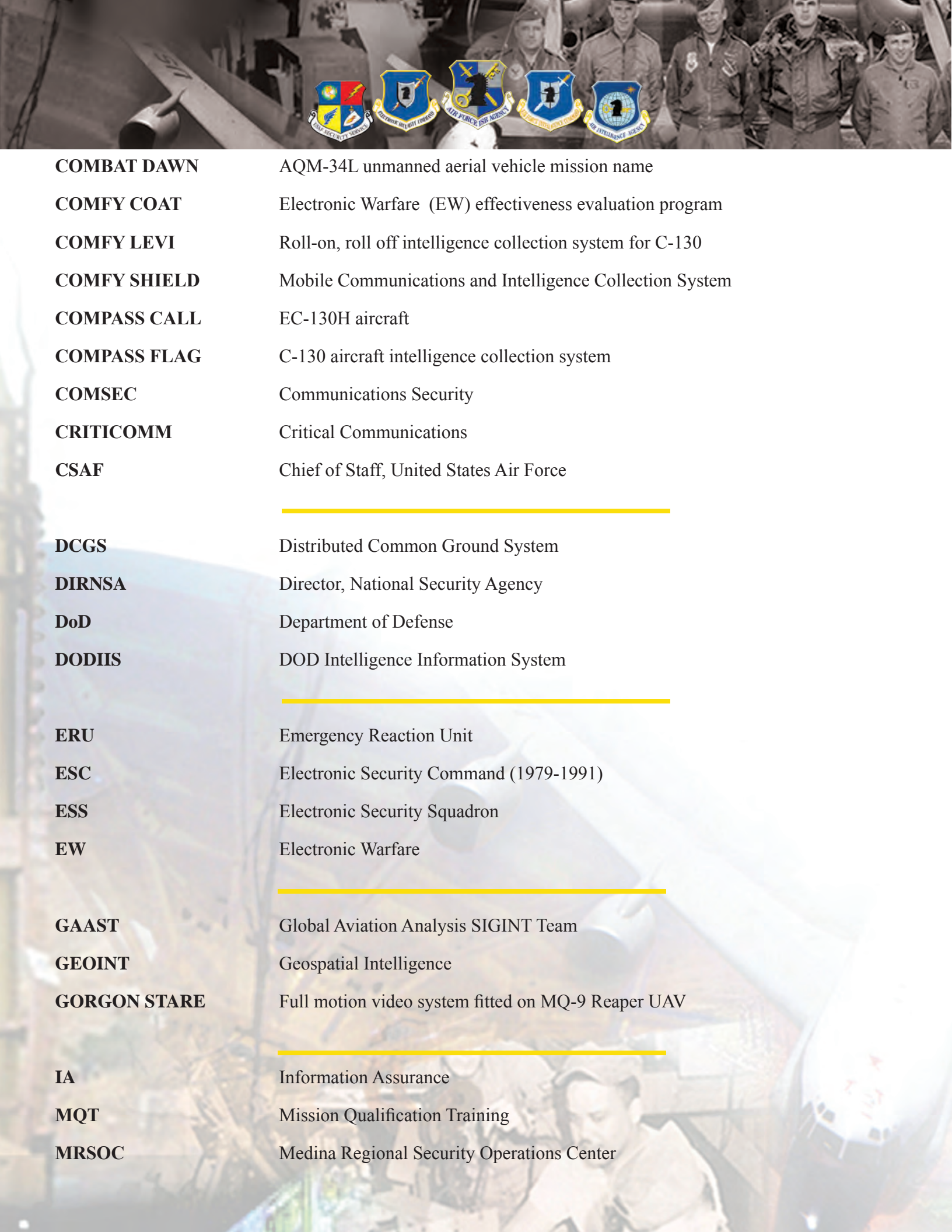
7 November: In a ceremony, General Shanahan promoted Colonel Lambert, the Vice Commander, to brigadier general.

1 October-31 December: The 25 AF staff continued its work to integrate major command-level ISR functions into ACC operating locations and detachments. This effort would continue into 2015.



GLOSSARY

AACS	Airways and Air Communications Service
ACRP	Airborne Communications Reconnaissance Program
AFB	Air Force Base
AFCO	Air Force Cryptologic Office
AFCS	Air Force Communications Service
AFCSC	Air Force Communications Security Center
AFEWC	Air Force Electronic Warfare Center
AFIC	Air Force Intelligence Command (1991-1993)
AFIOC	Air Force Information Operations Center
AFIWC	Air Force Information Warfare Center
AFISRA	Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency (2007-2014)
AFSCC	Air Force Special Communications Center
AFSSOS	Air Force Special Security Office System
AIA	Air Intelligence Agency (1993-2007)
AN/FLR-9	Circular Disposed Antenna Array
ARP	Airborne Reconnaissance Program
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BLUE SKY	Korean War C-47 USAFSS platform
BURNING CANDY	RC-135 mission name
<hr/>	
CARS	Contingency Airborne Reconnaissance System
COBRA JUDY	Ship-based phased array radar system, AN/SPQ-11
COBRA KING	Follow-on to COBRA JUDY. Installed on USNS Howard Lorenzen
COLLEGE EYE	EC-121
COMBAT APPLE	RC-135M airborne reconnaissance aircraft



COMBAT DAWN	AQM-34L unmanned aerial vehicle mission name
COMFY COAT	Electronic Warfare (EW) effectiveness evaluation program
COMFY LEVI	Roll-on, roll off intelligence collection system for C-130
COMFY SHIELD	Mobile Communications and Intelligence Collection System
COMPASS CALL	EC-130H aircraft
COMPASS FLAG	C-130 aircraft intelligence collection system
COMSEC	Communications Security
CRITICOMM	Critical Communications
CSAF	Chief of Staff, United States Air Force
<hr/>	
DCGS	Distributed Common Ground System
DIRNSA	Director, National Security Agency
DoD	Department of Defense
DODIIS	DOD Intelligence Information System
<hr/>	
ERU	Emergency Reaction Unit
ESC	Electronic Security Command (1979-1991)
ESS	Electronic Security Squadron
EW	Electronic Warfare
<hr/>	
GAAST	Global Aviation Analysis SIGINT Team
GEOINT	Geospatial Intelligence
GORGON STARE	Full motion video system fitted on MQ-9 Reaper UAV
<hr/>	
IA	Information Assurance
MQT	Mission Qualification Training
MRSOC	Medina Regional Security Operations Center



NSA	National Security Agency
NTI	National Tactical Integration
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OLYMPIC GAME	U-2 reconnaissance mission
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Project GRAYBACK	Intelligence collection program using balloons
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ROSE BOWL	C-47 airborne intelligence platform, successor to BLUE SKY.
RSM	Radio Squadron Mobile
RIVET AMBER	Specially configured RC-135E aircraft
RIVET BALL	Specially configured RC-135D aircraft
RIVET CARD	Early model RC-135
RIVET GYM	EC-121 airborne warning and control aircraft
RIVET JOINT	RC-135 airborne reconnaissance aircraft, second generation
RIVET TOP	USAFSS mission aboard the EC-121 aircraft
<hr/>	
SAAMA	San Antonio Air Material Area
SAC	Strategic Air Command
SCC	Special Communications Center
SENIOR BOOK	U-2 program
SENIOR SCOUT	Specially configured C-130 aircraft
SENIOR TROUPE	Mobile intelligence collection system
SG	Security Group
SIGINT	Signals Intelligence
SS	Security Squadron
SSO	Special Security Office
SW	Security Wing



Our Legacy of Service to the Nation

1948 - 2014

Cold War

Korean War

Vietnam

Mayaguez Rescue

Just Cause

Evacuation of Saigon
& Phnom Penh

Arab-Israeli 1967 Six Day War

Deny Flight

El Dorado Canyon

War On Drugs

Allied Force

Desert Storm

Deliberate Force

Enduring Freedom

Urgent Fury

Iraqi Freedom

Desert Shield

Noble Eagle

Southern/Northern Watch

New Dawn

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